

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Star...
The Times Profile:
Bettino Craxi, the man
most likely to be Italy's
next prime minister
... witness
A Euro-MP seeks
witnesses to the murder
in Greece 12 years ago of
Ann Chapman
... sticks
Jenny MacArthur
reviews the European
showjumping
championships
... and stones...
Glyn Daniel reviews
Christopher
Chippindale's new book
on Stonehenge
... and cracks
At the height of the
holiday rush, Michael
Baily looks at the state of
Britain's crumbling
motorways in a two-part
series

Airlines win Laker tussle

British Airways and British Caledonian have been granted an injunction in the Court of Appeal which will prevent the civil action brought against them by Laker liquidators for £1,000m damages from proceeding in US courts

Page 2; Law Report, page 4

Adams outburst at Commons

Mr Gerry Adams, the Provisional Sinn Fein MP, said at the Commons that he would not take his seat in a "foreign parliament"

Page 2

FINANCIAL TIMES
Leaders of the National Graphical Association will ask the TUC to make a fresh intervention in the *Financial Times* dispute, rather than discipline the union

Page 2

Gulf access

Washington is determined to maintain freedom of navigation in the Gulf despite Iran's threat to close it to oil shipments, a State Department spokesman said

Earlier report, page 6

Can we afford
this kind of
success?

Actor cleared

Mr Peter Adamson, the Coronation Street actor, was acquitted at Burnley Crown Court of indecently assaulting two girls aged eight at a swimming pool. The jury reached its verdict in 36 minutes

Page 3

Piggott's treble

Lester Piggott rode three winners at Goodwood, with Autumn Sunset, ridden by Willie Carson, winning the main race of the day, the Stewards Cup

Page 22

Stock prices

The Times daily listings of Stock Exchange, unit trust and Wall Street prices have been suspended because of a computer fault. We apologize for the temporary omission of these listings.

Leader page 11
Letters: On union ballots, from Mr V. Bogdanor, and Mr M. Upham; unemployment, from Mr A. E. De Barr; new telescope, from Professor A. Hewish, FRS

Leading articles: Parents and the Pill; London Transport: Cuba

Features: pages 8-10

The TUC and the *Financial Times* dispute; China woos the Dalai Lama; James Curran on the Tory militants. Spectrum: Aids is here. Wednesday page: Saving London's skyline; Joanna Lumley's Diary; The Times Cook

Special report, pages 13-15
Korea, a divided peninsula 30 years after the armistice
Obituary, page 12
Mr P. S. Rendall, Larry Gains

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Government acts to take over London Transport

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

London's bus and Underground services could be offered for sale to private investors within two years; and British Rail's South-east commuter trains could follow within five.

A White Paper on public transport in London, published yesterday, proposes that London Transport should be taken away from the Greater London Council next year and put under a small holding company, answerable directly to the Government.

Buses and Tubes would be put in separate companies under the London Regional Transport (LRT) holding company, which would propose fare and subsidy levels to the Government and disperse grants to the subsidiaries.

There would also be a liaison unit with British Rail, aimed at better interchanges, more through-ticketing and avoidance of duplication.

The possibility of eventually extending its responsibilities to include British Rail's commuter services is covered with reserve powers to be taken by the Government. LRT would then have power to provide financial support for investment in and operation of the services in and around London provided by British Rail.

The bus and Tube companies could be further split into smaller concerns, any of which could be sold at the LRT's discretion, with the Secretary of State's consent. Independent services could be established either in partnership with LRT companies or in competition.

New financial arrangements are to be worked out in consultation with local auth-

Mr Tom King:
Urgent legislation.

orities in London and the home counties over the next few months so that Londoners' contributions to transport subsidies may be made through deductions from the Government's rate support grant.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Transport, expects legislation to be ready in November and enacted by July, with the LRT established soon after.

Mr King's proposals go directly against the recommendations of the all-party Commons transport committee which recommended last year that London Transport should be run by a new metropolitan transport authority with representatives from local authorities in the Greater London area.

The Government feels that with fifty local authorities in London and its commuter hinterland that would be too unwieldy a body to provide an effective service. But Government sources emphasized yesterday that London was regarded

as unique and the measures proposed in the White Paper would not necessarily apply to big provincial areas.

Under the proposals, the Secretary of State would have the power to appoint the chairman and members (probably business) of the LRT and would set its subsidy levels.

The Government intends that London MPs should help to monitor the behaviour of the LRT and its services.

The White Paper is not specific on finance. As with British Rail, grants will come directly from the Secretary of State, and will replace the present system under which the GLC precepts London boroughs for "ratepayers' contribution towards the cost of London Transport.

The White Paper says the Government accepts that the case for change in London Transport is compelling. "It believes new arrangements are needed to secure a cost-effective delivery of services from both the public and private sector".

Grants to London Transport have risen from £6.5m to £370m between 1970 and 1982; services have dropped by a half on the Tubes, and two-thirds on the buses, and fares have doubled, the White Paper says. Subsidies now total £650m a year.

Mr David Wetzel, the GLC transport chairman, described the proposals last night as "nonsense, a negation of democracy", and "another nail in the coffin of transport integration in London".

Parliament, page 4
Leading article, page 11

Mother loses action on pill for children

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

A mother of 10 children, five of them girls, yesterday lost her High Court action to prevent doctors from prescribing the contraceptive pill to girls under 16 without their parents' knowledge or consent.

However, the decision will not end the two-and-a-half year campaign by Mrs Victoria Gillick to have a Department of Health and Social Security circular on the issue ruled illegal.

Mrs Valerie Riches, secretary of the Responsible Society, an organization which aims to prevent exploitation of the young, said that a writ was issued against the Attorney General as soon as the judgment had been studied.

It was ridiculous, she said, that parents were held legally responsible for fines incurred when their under age children committed criminal offences, but were not to be told when their children were subject to illegal acts that could have horrifying consequences.

Mrs Gillick, aged 36, of Old Market, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, had sought a court declaration that her daughters would not be given contraceptives because, whether or not he did so, intercourse would in fact take place.

Law Report, page 4
Leading article, page 11

But Mr Justice Woolf said that prescribing the pill was a palliative against the consequences of a crime, rather than an instrument for crime itself.

Mr Gerard Wright, QC, acting for her, had argued that a doctor could be committing a criminal offence by aiding and abetting unlawful sexual intercourse.

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Sir Denis Cooke, the chairman, said that final decisions would not be taken until the Government announced the corporation's financial target for this year. This announcement is several months overdue.

British Gas is understood however to be working on the basis of a price increase in October in line with the rate of inflation. This would be between 4 and 5 per cent.

The National Gas Consumers' Council immediately issued a statement saying that it would fight any attempt to increase domestic tariffs, in view of the dramatic profits increase.

The spectacular jump in profits was achieved despite a 2 per cent drop in gas sales, and the payment of £470m to the Government in the form of the recently introduced gas levy. The accounts were prepared on a current cost (inflation-adjusted) basis. On the conventional historic cost basis the profit would have been £1.034m.

British Gas attributed the profits rise to its success in keeping down costs, and the effect of the Government's three-year programme to raise gas prices annually by 10 per cent more than the inflation rate. This has now ended.

British Gas doubles its profits

By Jonathan Davis
Energy Correspondent

Domestic gas prices could rise by 4 to 5 per cent in the autumn, despite yesterday's announcement of a record £650m in profits by the British Gas Corporation.

The corporation's profit was more than double the previous year's figure of £311m, and means that it has outstripped British Telecom to become the largest single profit-making industry in the public sector.

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City Editor, page 17
Hands off, page 19

However, the decision had been regrettably reached because of differences between the workforce.

It added that the board had always adopted a non-sectarian attitude and that if at a future date the workforce agreed to work together the position would be reconsidered.

The dispute began with the hoisting of the flag earlier this month but the management agreed to take it down after protests from about forty Roman Catholic workers employed in the butchery department. Angry Protestants walked

out, the flag went up again, the Roman Catholics walked out.

Work at the plant, which slaughters cattle each week, came to a standstill. When Roman Catholic workers returned from the annual July 12 holiday Monday they said that unless the flag was down they would leave their jobs.

A spokesman for the Protestant workers said that they had been in a dilemma since the beginning of the month because, up or down, the flag led to walkouts by either Protestants or Roman Catholics. Ulster Farmers' Investments said, in a statement, it had no option but to close the plant

The spokesman said that the



Arab students die in West Bank massacre

From Christopher Walker, Hebron

old Jewish religious student stabbed about two miles away.

Two students who escaped to safety from a massacre at a crowded Arab university and launched a random gun and grenade attack. Despite their Arabic headgear, the gunmen are widely suspected of having been extremist Jewish settlers.

The gravity of the incident was demonstrated by the decision of Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, the new Israeli Chief of Staff, to fly to the scene by helicopter before reporting personally to Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister. A new security crisis has been posed for the Israelis, who immediately ordered a special alert for all troops in the occupied territories.

Within hours, a young Palestinian girl was killed and another wounded when soldiers broke up an anti-Israel demonstration in Nablus called in protest at events in Hebron. Israel Radio reported that the girl was killed by shots fired by Israeli soldiers after stones were thrown.

The attack was seen by many as revenge for the murder earlier this month of an 18-year-old.

Rebels fought off, page 6

Overseas trade improves

By Frances Williams
Economics Correspondent

A sharp improvement in Britain's overseas trade performance last month has helped to allay fears in government and City circles that Britain would plunge into the red this year for the first time since 1979.

Increased exports and lower imports transformed a £52m deficit on trade in goods in May into a £123m surplus in June. After adding an estimated £250m surplus on trade in invisibles, that is services such as insurance, banking and shipping, Britain ran a £373m current account surplus last month after a £302m deficit in May.

But it still looks highly unlikely that the Treasury's budget forecast for a £1,500m current account surplus in 1983 will be met. The surplus for the first six months of the year was only £406m and, until last month at least, Britain's trade performance has been steadily worsening.

More precise details of the planned extensive military operations due in Honduras between August and January emerged but it became increasingly apparent that the chiefs of staff are in something of a turmoil in trying to respond quickly to the White House.

In choosing Central America as the main theme of his press conference, Mr Reagan hoped to put the increasing militarization of American strategy into context with the peace efforts of Mr Richard Stone, his special envoy to the region, and of the presidential commission headed by Dr Henry Kissinger.

Although there is much talk of a naval "quarantine" of Nicaragua - the selective interdiction of shipping that might be carrying Cuban or Russian arms - there is a growing feeling that such a potentially dire action is unlikely, at least in the near future.

Dr Kissinger implicitly expressed that view when he said that he did not expect any irreversible events to occur before his commission reported early next year.

Moscow attack, page 6
Leading article, page 11

Export growth has remained

Continued on back page, col 6

Marriage of princess recognized

By Robert Nowell

The Holy See has agreed to recognize the marriage of Prince Michael of Kent (above) for which it refused a dispensation in 1978 after which they were married in a civil ceremony in Vienna.

The Pope gave his sanction yesterday to a service of validation at which the couple will renew vows and have their marriage blessed by the Roman Catholic Church.

Archbishop Bruno Heims, the apostolic pro-nuncio to the United Kingdom, will officiate at the service, a time and place for which have yet to be fixed.

In 1978, the Baroness Marie-Christine von Reibnitz, whose 1971 marriage to Mr Thomas Troubridge, a merchant banker, was dissolved in 1977 and annulled by the Roman Catholic Church's marriage tribunal in 1978, applied for a dispensation for her marriage to Prince Michael of Kent.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Clarke orders checks on GP deputizing services

By Richard Evans

Checks on doctors' deputizing services were ordered yesterday by Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health. His instruction, sent out to all family practitioner committees in England, comes after complaints by patients and MPs, and reports alleging serious deficiencies in the widely-used system.

The complaints have included: inefficient organization; inexperienced or inadequately qualified deputies; poor service to patients; and excessive use of deputizing services by individual doctors.

An inquiry is being held into the Southern Relief Service, the largest commercial deputizing firm in Britain, which operates throughout London and the Home Counties.

In the letter to committee chairman, Mr Clarke said that it was clear from complaints brought to his attention that in some areas the code of practice covering deputizing services "is not being followed as closely as it is intended to be".

He said: "I regard the proper and effective discharge by FPCs of the duties and responsibilities laid on them... to be of the utmost importance. A failure to discharge them properly can lead to an unacceptable

Airlines win latest round in Laker fight

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

British Airways and British Caledonian won the latest round of their battle with Laker liquidators yesterday when the Court of Appeal granted an injunction preventing the case against them proceeding in the US courts.

That reverses a ruling by Mr Justice Parker in May. But it could be reversed if, as expected, Laker interests take the case to the House of Lords.

But for the present the shadow of a \$1,000 damages claim is lifted, on the primary ground, the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, made clear in a reserved judgment yesterday, that orders made by the British Government under the Protection of Trading Interests Act since Mr Justice Parker gave judgment had "rendered the issues raised by Laker in the district court action wholly untriable as between Laker and the appellants". To allow Laker to proceed with its claim in these circumstances would amount to a total denial of justice to the appellants.

The judgment refers to the civil case being brought by Laker liquidators and does not affect the criminal grand jury case being brought by the US Dept of Justice largely on the strength of evidence provided by the civil case. However, the airlines already have a degree of protection against that by the British Government's orders requiring them not to collaborate.

Sir John said that it was so far as was known the first occasion on which an English court had prevented further prosecution or proceedings before a foreign court when

Profit after loss

The Civil Aviation Authority made a £13.3m profit in the last financial year, compared with a £8m loss in 1981-82.

But its chairman, Mr John Dent, said yesterday that the operating profit of £48.7m was boosted by £21.5m exchange earnings from aviation charges paid in strong dollars, £10m of which had been repaid to airlines in lower charges. More would follow.

The authority is responsible for fare regulation, air traffic control and safety standards.

British Airways' shuttle service suffered another blow yesterday when British Midland Airways was granted a licence to operate between London and Belfast from October.

British Midland has won a 32 per cent share of the Glasgow and Edinburgh routes in recent months. Its Belfast service will have reserved seats and full meals and be £3.50 cheaper.

Law Report, page 4

Labour has thirst for unity, Kinnock says

From Philip Webster

Political Reporter, Penrith

Mr Neil Kinnock, front runner in the Labour leadership contest, spoke yesterday of a thirst for unity in the party and said it must never again make the mistakes of its last period in opposition.

British voters were concerned about divisions in their political parties but he said they had no reason to worry on that score about the Labour Party "now or in the future".

Speaking in support of Mr Lindsay Williams, the Labour candidate in the Penrith and the Border by-election, Mr Kinnock admitted that the way the party had conducted itself in a substantial period of opposition had contributed to the Conservatives' election victory. Labour had been left with little time to convey its case accurately and to present it in an appealing way.

He said the clash last week between Mr Michael Foot and Mr Roy Hattersley was "unfortunate, but added: "That has now cleared and it demonstrates the thirst in the Labour Party for unity."

Yet people were rightly worried about divisions in the Conservative and Alliance parties, he said. The Conservatives were whining and whingeing over the cuts, there was the prospect of a backbench rebellion, and the Prime Minister had been brushed aside in important votes. In the Alliance Dr David Owen was trying to replace Mr David Steel in his absence as the effective leader.

Mr Kinnock agreed with Dr Owen that tomorrow's poll, which follows Mr William Whitelaw's elevation to the Lords, would give the voters a chance to take revenge for the Government's alleged broken election promises.

Mr Kinnock said that people



High honour: The husband and wife acting team of Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray, and a Chinese seaman who rescued eight fellow crewmen yesterday.

Mr and Mrs Denison had been from a burning fleet auxiliary in the Falklands war were among those who



with his mother from Hongkong to receive the George Medal for his action in the Sir Galahad after she was hit at Fitzroy Bay. Forty-eight men died in the Argentine attack on the ship.

Mr Denison, aged 34, the former international footballer, who has admitted that fast cars, alcohol and gambling has caused his downfall, failed to attend a resumed hearing of his public examination at the London Bankruptcy Court yesterday.

Mr Registrar Hunt adjourned the hearing *sine die* saying that no good reason had been shown for his absence. That could mean that Mr Best, whose debts total £115,418, could remain bankrupt for the rest of his life.

Englishman loses race bias claim

A museum custodian who claimed that he was dismissed from a job in Pwllheli, Wales, last year because he is English and cannot speak Welsh lost his case yesterday that he was a victim of racial discrimination.

Mr Harold Day, chairman of an industrial tribunal in Colwyn Bay said that they accepted the Gwynedd Maritime Museum's case that ability to speak Welsh was desirable, but not a condition of the summer job, which was advertised in English.

He added that Mr Anthony Sweeting, aged 47, from Pwllheli, Gwynedd, had not been promised that he would keep the job in 1982.

However, Mr Sweeting had created an unfavourable impression with the trustees by laying down improved terms and conditions which he expected.

Penalty against bankrupt Best

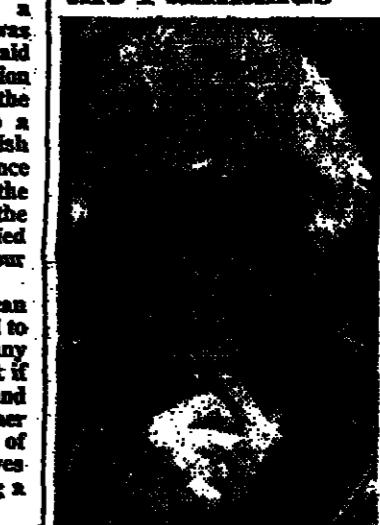
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Ban on calls to faithful

Birmingham's planners recommended yesterday that an application to use four loudspeakers to call the faithful to the city's central mosque in Balsall Heath should be rejected. Mr Graham Shayler, the city's planning officer, said the predicted high noise level of 90 decibels at 220 yards would be likely to constitute a nuisance to residents. The social services department also objected.

Disc-jockey for the Falklands



WRAPPED UP: Tina Thackstone, aged 22, is to be a disc-jockey to the British troops in the Falklands.

She goes to Port Stanley as a Foreign Office secretary, but one of her duties will be to present a radio request show. Miss Thackstone, of Devon Road, Salcombe, in Devon, said: "It sounds like a lot of fun."

£30m van plant

Vauxhall is to invest about £30m in a project to build a new light van at its Ellesmere Port plant. The factory will also make parts for Vauxhall's new medium-size car which is to be introduced in August next year.

Band returns

Twenty-five members of Gwent youth brass band who were in a coach crash on a West German autobahn in which several people were hurt returned to their home town yesterday.

The Victoria & Albert Museum invested £35 (estimate £30 to £50) in a pair of late nineteenth century woollen combinations.

The

early

embroideries

were

the

real

monks

spinners

Sale room

Mittens for a royal baby

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

The Manchester City Art Gallery spent £580 (estimate £600 to £800) on a pair of gloves at Christie's, South Kensington, yesterday. They date from the seventeenth century and have silk cuffs embroidered with birds and flowers and trimmed with sequins.

Gloves were well represented in the sale of embroidery and costume with a pair of baby's mittens said to have been made for little Princess Charlotte, the Prince Regent's one legitimate daughter, among the most touching items. They are made of pink muslin embroidered with pink silk and the tips with blue flowers. The sale price was £100 (estimate £100 to £150).

A late seventeenth century single kid glove embroidered in pink silk and silver thread with a trimming of rosettes went to Manchester City Art Gallery at £150 (estimate £150 to £250).

The Museum of London spent £40 (estimate £40 to £60) on a rare pair of long cotton gloves of around 1800.

The Victoria & Albert Museum invested £35 (estimate £30 to £50) in a pair of late nineteenth century woollen combinations.

The early embroideries were the real monks

spinners

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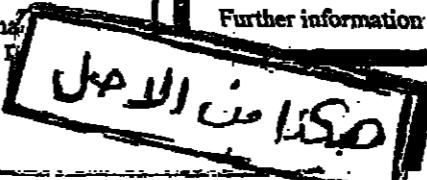
1919 - 1980

He Lives for ever in our hearts
and we pledge our loyalty to his son

LONG LIVE H.I.M. REZA SHAH II THE PEOPLE'S SHAH

Inserted by the Society of Iranian Monarchist Students

Further information from P.O. Box 432 London, W4 4DS



PARLIAMENT July 26 1983

New body to take over Tube and buses in London

TRANSPORT

Transport in London is to be reorganized and run by a new body to be called London Regional Transport. Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Transport, told the Commons in a statement on his White Paper on transport in the capital, published today. (Tuesday)

He said the present system had served the travelling public and transport operators badly. Since 1970 costs had risen well beyond inflation; public subsidy had risen thirteenfold, and fares had doubled in real terms.

The Government accepted the all-party transport committee recommendation that transport in London should be regarded as a matter of national priority and responsibility for it should be moved from the Greater London Council.

The new body would have a responsibility for securing efficient public transport for London and would be required to encourage other private or publicly owned operators to provide services where they could be offered more efficiently and cheaply.

Mr Robert Higgins, Opposition spokesman (Aberdeen North) said the Select Committee on Transport report of July last year recommended that the authority should be composed of members from the GLC, London borough councils, shire counties, district councils and the Secretary of State's nominees. How would it be directed? would there simply be the Secretary of State's nominees?

Mr Norman Atkinson (Tottenham, Lab): The £25m is less than the total amount of excess profit the drugs companies have made since Mr Fowler became Secretary of State.

Mr Fowler: No. The £25m we are seeking from the drugs industry is a six-month total. It follows that the annual total we are talking about would be a £50m contribution.

If other industries had been asked to make that kind of contribution, nobody could seriously say it was an unnecessary small contribution.

Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C): Is he satisfied that the cost of drugs is tightly under control?

Mr Fowler: With the family practitioner service, we wish to do more to be totally satisfied on that. We are making progress with the price regulation scheme and expect savings from it.

Mr Edwin Currie (Derbyshire, South, C): I welcome his determination to get value for money from the pharmaceutical industry. But the current arrangements for August and September will cause the main brunt to fall on dispensing chemists. It will take six to eight weeks to clear higher-priced stocks.



Hunt: Politically-motivated face experiments.

Lab: Most Londoners will be in these suggestions because Mr King has thrown out of the window all commonsense and replaced it by sheer political ideology.

How can he talk about accountability if he sets up a centralized holding company to which there would be linked a labyrinth of public limited companies in which accountability will be confined to the board room?

Mr King: His remarks are a savage attack on the select committee which was unanimous in its proposals.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, Lab): Will he not rule out some democratic participation in the authority?

Mr King: He raises an aspect worth considering. We are discussing a wide area. People commute from Bristol and Leicester and their view should also be considered.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham North East, Lab): How can he not give guarantees on fire levels or travel concessions for the retired?

Mr King: Those answers will depend upon the performance of the authority and on the decisions of the board. It is for local authorities to determine what will happen over concessionary fares.

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Government reviewing regional policy

PM's QUESTIONS

The Government is having a review of regional policy, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said after Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C) had referred to the unanimity of opinion that present regional industrial development grants were defective in that they did not promote employment in black spots but discriminated against companies which were already established and trying to stand on their own feet.

Would she therefore see (he asked) that when the department is ready with its proposals a White Paper will be published so that we may all take part in the very serious and necessary debate on this subject?

Mr Thatcher: I know that a number of firms outside the regional areas feel that when we are encouraging inward investment to regional areas with heavy subsidies, those who come in often compete with firms outside the areas who are standing on their own feet.

We are having a look at regional policy with a view to making it more effective in the creation of jobs.

Retirement

A motion asking the Speaker Mr (Baroness) Weatherill to convey to Sir Charles Gairdner, Minister of State for the Environment, the Government's commitment to maintain a grant supplementary reports for 1983-84 and 1981-2 be

In 1981-82 local authorities were budgeting above the expenditure targets laid down by Government and it was decided to hold back Government grants worth £201m. In the event, some authorities spent below their budgets and so the hold

back had been reduced to £124m. One report implemented that reduction.

The other report implemented the Government's grant hold-back of £280m for authorities which had budgeted over their 1983-84 targets.

The Opposition's chief spokesman, Mr Gerald Kaufman, had written an article, full of the most astonishing rubbish in Monday's edition of *The Times*, in it he had said: "As for rates-borne expenditure, it is of course balanced exactly by the rates charged by local authorities and so adds precisely nothing in net terms to public expenditure". That was nonsense.

Expenditure by local authorities was public expenditure and had been so defined by successive governments for many decades.

Whether financed by borrowing or rate support grant or rates, it was

all about the same.

Mr Jenkins moving that two English local authorities should have no doubt of the strength of the Government's commitment to control their expenditure.

Mr Jenkins, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in the Commons: "The Government had endorsed in the general election when their manifesto stated clearly that they would maintain firm control of public spending and borrowing."

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Britain and China will resume Hongkong discussion next week

Peking (Reuters) - British and Chinese officials described their latest round of talks yesterday on the future of Hongkong as useful and agreed to meet again next Tuesday and Wednesday.

The discussions began last September when China announced that it intended to regain sovereignty over the territory, most of which is ruled by Britain under a 99-year lease which expires in 1997.

A British Embassy spokesman said Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador who is leader of the British team, and Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, would visit London next month for consultation.

He said they were likely to meet Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Richard Luce, Junior Minister of Staff at the Foreign Office, who has special responsibility for the colony, and possibly Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Both British and Chinese officials said no change was expected in their negotiating teams for next week's talks,

which would be their last meeting until September.

Mr Qi Huayun, head of the Information Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said: "The two sides have had two more useful days of talks."

"They will meet again to resume these talks on August 2 and 3 in Peking, after which there will be a recess of some weeks. Talks will recommence in September."

Sir Edward took part in talks this week and last month as part of the British delegation and not as a representative of Hongkong. Peking does not recognize his right to speak for the colony's population of 5.2 million people, about 95 per cent of whom are Chinese.

Hongkong Island, the business heart of the colony, and the tip of Kowloon peninsula were ceded to Britain in perpetuity, but these areas are not considered viable without the leased New Territories.

China, in any case, does not recognize the validity of any of the treaties, which it says were signed under duress by the crumbling Manchu empire.

Chinese leaders have frequently said they plan to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hongkong. But many Hongkong residents are sceptical, saying Peking has given little indication of how it plans to achieve this.

The present phase of talks is officially described as more detailed than those which started last September, informed Hongkong sources in Peking said the earlier round was deadlocked at one stage in over the highly sensitive issue of sovereignty.

But the two sides had since set this aside and agreed to discuss technical issues concerning the future administration of the territory.

Uncertainty over the future of Hongkong has caused serious jitters on the colony's stock markets and in June the Hongkong dollar sank to a record 7.73 against the US dollar.

It has since recovered and traded yesterday at 7.19 to the US dollar and stocks rose on a wave of speculative buying.

Glut strengthens Soviet hand in grain talks

Vienna (Reuters) - The United States and the Soviet Union opened two days of talks in Vienna yesterday on US grain supplies to the Soviet Union, with a world glut putting the latter in a strong position.

American officials have said negotiations are likely to be long and hard, with little prospect of early agreement at this session, the third round of talks on renewing the accord.

Mr Boris Gordeev, the Soviet Deputy Trade Minister, a veteran of grain negotiations who is again leading his country's delegation, expressed hope that the two sides would reach agreement at this round.

"I hope this will be the last time. We will do our best," he told reporters as he arrived at the Soviet trade mission, where the talks are taking place.

• MOSCOW: American negotiators may find that they have overestimated the Soviet demand for imported grain this year, according to Western economic experts in Moscow (Richard Owen writes).

The current agreement expires at the end of September.

Warning to Japan on defence role

From Richard Hanson Tokyo

Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, said in Tokyo yesterday that his Government does not favour a stepping-up of Japan's defence role.

Experts say that despite the endemic problems of Soviet agriculture, including badly maintained machinery, inadequate storage and fertilizer shortages, this year's harvest should be better than expected thanks to almost ideal weather conditions. Following a series of bad harvests Moscow stopped publishing statistics, but Western experts estimate put this year's crop at more than 200 million tonnes.

This still leaves a shortfall of about 34 million tonnes, but with a world glut and the expected good harvest at home the Soviet Union can afford to cut back on imports, experts say.

Last week Soviet officials told a visiting Argentine trade delegation that Russia would not need to buy more than the 4.5 million tonnes to which it is committed.

Australian officials have chosen a deliberately moderate view of how Japan's defence capabilities should develop.

"Australia would also be concerned if Japan were to attempt to develop a regional security role. This would have a destabilizing effect on the Asia-Pacific region," he declared.

He did say, however, that his statement on defence did not mean that he thought Japan was about to take actions which would worry Australia.



Crash aftermath: Scene near Avignon after the Nice-Paris express was derailed

Teenagers die in rail crash

Barbentane, France (AP) - A broken axle was the apparent cause of a train derailment early yesterday in southern France that killed four Canadian teenagers and injured 24 other passengers on board an overnight Nice-Paris express.

The train, carrying about 500 passengers, was travelling at 85 mph when two carriages derailed at the small Barbentane train station, seven miles south east of Avignon in the Provence countryside.

A scene of panic followed. Blood-stained pillows, sleeping bags and suitcases flew through the air when two sleeping carriages flipped over. About 66ft of rail was twisted in the air to a height of 13ft by the force of the shock, while the last two carriages battered the station platform.

"It was an apocalyptic scene," one rescue worker said. "Many of the injured were taken off the train while they were in the midst of receiving blood transfusions."

Embassy officials said the four, and 25 other Canadian students, were in the carriage that suffered the most damage. Another group of Canadians had tickets for the train, but arrived at Nice after it had pulled out.

• PARIS: Storms which have swept France over the past ten days have left ten people dead, injured dozens and caused tens of millions of pounds of damage to crops and livestock. (Diana Geddes writes).

Camp-sites on the west coast have been particularly hard hit. North-west of La Rochelle, three campers were killed by falling trees and six injured as storms ripped apart their tents.

Falklands offensive by junta at UN

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

Argentine Foreign Ministry officials are preparing a new diplomatic offensive over the Falkland Islands, focused on the next meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, due in September.

Admiral Ruben Franco, the Argentine Navy commander, who was also in Caracas for the Bolivian bicentenary, said: "Let no one doubt that we will return to the Malvinas (Falklands). There is no room in America, in the world, for usurpation and colonialism".

As part of its strategy, the Argentine Foreign Ministry is inviting representatives of the opposition political parties to attend the next UN General Assembly.

Last year, the vote on the resolution was taken in early November. Since this timetable is repeated, the vote this year will come after Argentina's general election, which due on October 30.

The intention is to show that the Argentine Government's position is shared by voters at the polls. The Foreign Ministry hopes that representatives of the two main parties, the Peronists and the radicals, will be present at the UN.

Rain brings some relief to S Africa

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Drought-stricken South Africa is rejoicing after a weekend of widespread heavy rain. In some areas, more rain fell than in the past 18 months.

The rain, accompanied by falling temperatures and gale-force winds on the south coast, failed to end the drought, which is considered to be the worst this century.

It has devastated the maize crop, the staple food of thousands of blacks in impoverished rural areas and the country's main farm export.

Deaths related to malnutrition have increased sharply, and about two million tonnes of maize will have to be imported.

The rain has come too late to save the maize crop, but agricultural experts said it should prevent further deterioration in sugar and wheat crops.

The southern coast industrial town of East London was one of the wettest places in the country over the weekend. Winds gusting up to 70 mph tore off roofs and uprooted trees.

The rain brought little comfort to Durban residents, who have suffered stringent water rationing.

Portuguese army chief faces sack

From Our Correspondent Lisbon

President Eanes of Portugal has been asked by the Government to dismiss General Amadeu Garcia Dos Santos the Army Chief of Staff, whom he appointed two years ago.

The request seems likely to widen the breach between the President and the government of Dr Mario Soares.

No official reason for the dismissal has been made public, but after a meeting yesterday of top army generals, including General Garcia Dos Santos, with Dr Soares said that he had been told by government members that the decision had been a political one.

Senhor Mota Pinto said that the dismissal, had been by a unanimous decision based exclusively on the officer's qualifications. Four other generals were confirmed in their posts.

General Garcia Dos Santos, who is 47 and a former professor in Lisbon's military academy, played a prominent role in the Army coup that restored democracy to Portugal on April 25, 1974.

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Moscow says Reagan plans to send forces into Central America

The Soviet Union has accused Washington of planning direct military operations in Central America involving United States troops.

Tass said the United States wanted to bring down the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, and help the "gory right-wing regime" in El Salvador to "down the patriotic movement of the popular masses in the region.

Moscow strongly supports the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, and is reported to have channelled arms supplies to Managua through Havana. Cuba remains the main Soviet base of operations in the area, and Moscow this week sent Mr Mikhail Solomtsev, a senior Kremlin leader, to Havana for the celebrations marking Cuban national day, the anniversary of the assault on the Moncada barracks which marked the beginning of Castro's successful bid for power.

The formation of a bi-partisan committee on Central America chaired by Dr Henry Kissinger is viewed in Moscow as an attempt by Mr Reagan to gain general support for an

attack on the leftist regime in Nicaragua and suppression of the rebels in El Salvador. Tass said the Kissinger committee was "a clear deception".

Dr Kissinger, who once enjoyed favour in Soviet eyes as the architect of the Nixon detente policy, is being described as the "tool of Rockefeller and other monopolists", and the Great Destabilizer for his "disgraceful role" in the overthrow of the Allende regime in Chile.

The Russians have also attacked Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, the American delegate to the United Nations, for allegedly trying to blackmail Nicaragua, "a country smaller than Kansas", and for supporting repressive anti-communist regimes in Chile, Honduras and El Salvador.

Reagan officials talk of democracy in Central America and blame unrest in the region on communism. Tass commented. In fact, it said, the crisis in Central America was not the result of "Marxist-Leninist intrigues" invented by Mr Reagan but "the tragic position of the broad masses".

Salvador civilian deaths rise

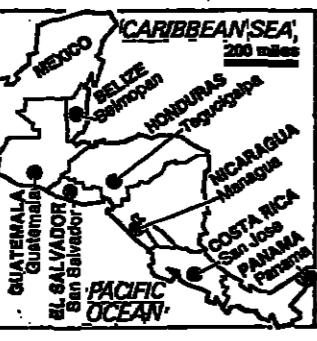
Salvador (Reuters) - Statistics compiled by the United States Embassy here show that the number of civilians killed in El Salvador has risen despite official US reports that the Salvadorean Government has kept trying to improve the human rights situation.

The Embassy figures, largely based on local press reports, show that the number of deaths caused by political violence rose 9 per cent to 1,054 in the first six months of this year. It was 961 in the second half of 1982.

Human rights groups say the figures cast doubts on the validity of the process by which the Reagan Administration certifies progress in the country's human rights record before approving military and economic aid.

By law, the Reagan Administration must certify every six months that the Salvadorean Government is "working to increase respect for human rights and reduce abuses by security forces".

In the text of the last certification report, issued last week, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, said there was less evidence of progress towards ending violence against non-combatants and controlling all elements of the armed forces. But he added that the Government was persisting in its efforts to improve the human rights situation.



Iraqi President visits the Gulf war front

Baghdad (Reuters) - President Saddam Hussein of Iraq visited the northern sector of the Gulf war yesterday as Iraq said it had foiled a fresh Iranian attack in the Haj Omran area of the front.

The Iraqi news agency INA said President Hussein visited the First Army Corps in the mountainous Kurdish province, where Iran launched an attack across the border on Saturday, to "express appreciation of the great heroism of our brave fighters".

The agency also quoted the corps commander as saying Iraqi forces early yesterday had beaten back an Iranian attack on what he called "an important mountain in the Haj Omran area".

The commander, a major-general who was not named, said Iranian forces gained a toehold on the mountain before being thrown off in a counter-attack, which involved jets and helicopter gunships.

• Nicosia: Iran has issued a fresh warning that it will block the Gulf to shipping and stop oil shipments if Iraq tries to prevent Iranian oil exports, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported yesterday (AP reports).

The latest warning came from Hojatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, following a meeting of the Supreme Defence Council on Monday night, IRNA reported.

Knesset 'deceit' on Bill

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast arrived at Heathrow Airport for an official visit which will include talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher today.

• A photograph that appeared in Monday's issue of *The Times* captioned as Mr Houphouet-Boigny was not in fact of him, but had been wrongly supplied to us by an agency.

The Bill, requiring archaeologists to subject to rabbinical review if they encountered suspected grave sites, was scheduled for debate yesterday, but Mr Meir Cohen-Avidor, the Deputy Speaker who was in the chair, suddenly added it to the agenda a few minutes before midnight on Monday when most of the opposition members had left the benches of his own party, Likud. Mr Savidor acknowledged that legal experts had unanimously told him that the Speaker had no authority to invalidate a Knesset decision, but that he was doing so of anyhow out of a sense of "natural justice", and logic.

Mr Cohen-Avidor, a Likud deputy, had been one of the sponsors of the controversial Bill.

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SHAH WILL NEVER DIE AS HE'S ALWAYS ALIVE IN OUR HEARTS

Your Majesty, Reza Shah II, Shah of Iran

Our sincere condolences at the 3rd anniversary of the passing away of your father, the Great Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, Shahanshah Arameh, on the 27th July, 1980, whose memory we cherish.

As Your Majesty's loyal subjects, we look forward to the time when it may become possible for you to take up your rightful place as King in our Country, and to restore it to peace and prosperity after the long period of suffering is over.

May God be with you.

ISSUED BY IRANIAN ROYALISTS IN LONDON



A shady spot: Chad Government troops in the strategic town of Abéché shelter from the sun beside a military lorry equipped with anti-aircraft guns captured from the rebel forces of Mr Goukomi Oueddeï.

Arafat men fight off PLO rebels

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

Palestinian guerrillas loyal to Mr Yassir Arafat fought off a four-hour machine-gun and rocket attack by Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) rebels on the western side of the Bekaa Valley yesterday in the most serious outbreak of fighting within the PLO for many weeks.

Rocket-propelled grenades fired by Palestinians belonging to Colonel Abu Moussa's rebel units exploded not just around the Arafat men, but in the nearby village of Jidta, killing several civilians.

At least 14 people - 10 of the guerrillas - died as the Palestinian rebels made 10 separate attacks down a hillside above the village on to two compounds held by Mr Arafat's men.

By midday the streets of Jidta were strewn with sandbags, hastily-built earth wall defences and broken power lines. But the village, together with the PLO base to the east of it, remained firmly in the hands of the loyalists.

Jidta lies just west of Chitwa and forms the last pro-Arafat guerrilla base along the Syrian-Israeli front lines in the Bekaa.

The Syrian Army surrounded part of the village more than a month ago although Colonel Abu Ahmed Ismail, the local pro-Arafat PLO commander, said yesterday that no Syrian troops took part in the fighting on the rebels' side. The Colonel spent part of the morning talking to the Syria commander in Chitwa by telephone.

He claimed that the rebels were assisted by the extremist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC), together with a number of guerrillas whom he said came from Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Several hundred Pakistanis and Bangladeshis have been fighting alongside the PLO for the past three years but this is the first evidence that they may have joined the rebellion against Mr Arafat's rule.

The Arafat guerrillas at Jidta are usually teenagers, some no more than 15 years old, but yesterday they were joined by older men and were hastily digging new foxholes.

"In God's name", Colonel Ismail said, "if the PFLP-GC and Abu Moussa want to start fighting again, this will be their funeral."

The Arafat men have clearly been instructed to fight hard for their last outpost in the central Bekaa and there was evidence that PLO loyalists are trying to encourage Lebanese civilians to support them.

After the fighting subsided yesterday, more than 1,000 local residents from Jidta and parts of Chitwa held a demonstration, demanding an end to the fighting and threatening to use guns on both groups of PLO combatants if they started shooting again.

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THE ARTS

Theatre
An idiom joyously relished

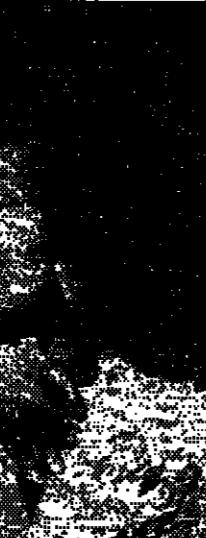
Cassie McFarlane: a life of gossip and disconnection

Smile Orange
Tricycle

For the average London spectator, the Tricycle's latest attraction offers as much entertainment as a production in Platdeutsch to the average Hamburger. It is close enough to Home Counties English for anybody to get the slow bits; but as soon as the company start having fun then you are left out in the cold unless you are at home with West Indian patois.

Trevor Rhone's piece may have been a smash hit at Jamaica's Barn Theatre in 1970, and may rank as a classic farce with its own public. But all I can safely claim for *Smile Orange* is that it points the way to *Fawlty Towers*. Set in a matchwood tourist hotel adjoining the island's airstrip, it spends two action-packed hours itemizing all the ills hoteliers are heir to.

Miss Brandon (Cassie McFarlane) on the front desk devotes her life to telephone gossip and cutting off incoming calls. The under-manager lives in a perpetual sweat of officious panic. Cyril, the kitchen boy, obediently obeys everybody in sight and makes a mess of everything he touches. And two waiters, led by the system-beating Ringo, run the place for their own advantage and profit.



Also on stage are a group of puffy, Hawaiian-shirted dolls representing the tourists. It strains credibility in Rufus Collins's production to see these white, effigies slumped immobile in the lobby with the staff going berserk all round them.

But at least they make the point that the gags are not supposed to be understood by Whites. Ringo (Malcolm Frederick) can lapse into standard English when he wants, as when he conducts a telephone intrigue with the manager's wife. But on the whole, if you are looking for laughs you have to rely on pantomime scenes, such as Cyril's lesson in how to serve dinner without getting your armpit under the client's nose, or Ringo's assiduous stripping of the manager's office under the pretext of cleaning it.

As the cast is small, comic climaxes are apt to happen off-stage and reach us only through description. Even so, the production could have done with more routine work as a springboard for the anarchy. What comes through most strongly is the sight of an able company joyously relishing their own idiom: and demonstrating a mischievous pecking order in which the lower the status the louder the ensuing raspberry.

Irving Wardle

Awesomely moral

Beau Brummell

St James's, Piccadilly

This year's Piccadilly Festival offers, in addition to luncheon and evening concerts in St James's Church, this entertaining little one-man show staged in the church's Wren Coffee House by its south entrance in Jermyn Street. With the audience at candlelit cafe tables so close that I hoped we might be offered a pinch of the Brummell snuff, the interior's severe modernity and harsh lighting do not help Paul Alexander, but his confidence and style quickly conquer the environment.

Like Restoration comedy hero, he enters in *dashabille*, with a "blue devils" hangover and gout so acute that his toe cannot bear the touch of tale. We then have the fascination of watching this creature wash, splash itself with cologne and dress itself, winding the snowy cravat round the specially designed super starched collar, gradually shuddering the head into it to produce a natural pattern of creases.

Meanwhile he chats of his military career, abandoned in disgust on being posted to Manchester, and the principles of good dress, cleanliness, harmony and lack of ostentation. Then comes Nemesis – gambling debts forcing him to permanent exile in France. a

Anthony Masters

Dance

Light in the dark

Giselle

Festival Hall

Festival Ballet opened its South Bank summer season on Monday with Mary Skeaping's production of *Giselle*. The general view is that this staging is an exemplar of romantic period style, so I must manfully try to suppress my heretical thoughts that it is long-winded, with many irrelevant added details that obscure the main plot, while vital issues such as how Hilarion dies are skipped over.

I hope that before the next performance someone will have found time to put the execrable lighting to rights. A cut-out gaze cloth that should be invisible was ingeniously emphasized all through Act I, and in Act II the dawn passed unnoticed after a night when the alternation of light and dark had been as frequent as it was purposeless.

Several casts are to play the leading roles during the week. Elisabetta Terabust, the first of the Giselles, acted with a touching sincerity and, perhaps more important, an obvious awareness of why things were happening. Some of her footwork was smudgy but her dancing is nicely presented.

John Percival

weeks with Festival before joining the Royal Ballet, made an apt partner for her: clear and sympathetic in his acting, and his dancing carefully phrased, although, like his ballerina, his strength lies in expressiveness rather than virtuosity. They make a good match, both with dark good looks, both romantic in style, and Jolley will not necessarily find himself better partnered in his new job.

It is unusual, and not unwelcome, to see the Prince of Couland so affable as Terry Hayworth makes him. Casting Ben van Cauwenbergh (who usually plays romantic leads) as Giselle's unsuccessful village suitor Hilarion ought to be a good idea, and could yet be so with more work on the detail and motivation of his role.

Virginie Alberti danced her harvest solo prettily. Matz Skoog started his well but did not sustain his strength. Manola Asensio made the ghostly Queen of the Wilis unnecessarily arid, and there was some unconvincing acting from most of her victims. Incidentally, when Giselle's mother is patterning through her traditional and largely uncomprehended mime about the Wilis legend, it looks crazy to point at her own front door in indicating their accustomed haunts.

John Percival

NASTASSIA KINSKI TERI GARR and FREDERIC FORREST in
One from the heart
FRANCIS COPPOLA
Music by TOM WATTS
"At the end all you want to do is watch it over again" Richard Cook N.M.E.
Lumière Cinema 836 0691 PRODUCE 239 474 425 500

Nigel Hawthorne has just completed his final stint as Permanent Secretary to the Department of Administrative Affairs in the BBC television series *Yes Minister*. Now he is not sure he enjoys the feeling the Royal Shakespeare Company's Barbican headquarters seems to engender in some of its actors of being a "glorified civil servant". He has joined the company to play Orgon in Christopher Hampton's new translation of Molière's *Tartuffe*, directed by Bill Alexander, which opens at the Pit tomorrow. It will not be farcical.

"In the past, audiences have been very suspicious about French plays, and the translators truncated Molière's long and complicated speeches to make them acceptable to English ears", says Hawthorne. "We were concerned that the production should be a genuine version, rather than taking the original idea and turning it into a funny play. It is not in rhyming couplets but blank verse, in order to keep it as near as possible to Molière's words."

The basis of good comedy is truth, so the more real the situation is, the funnier. You don't need arbitrary business and jokes. Underneath there is an extraordinary emotional situation, in which Orgon, an ordinary middle-class family man, has invited into his house a religious nut, who is also a con-man. The more he is warned, the more obstinate he becomes that the man should remain in their lives. When the moment of realization does arrive, it is almost too painful to watch."

Tartuffe is designed to run in repertoire with Bulgakov's *Molière*, which is transferring from the Other Place at Stratford. The Bulgakov play shows *Tartuffe* as a contributory factor in Molière's own downfall, and draws parallels to the artist in any repressive society. Antony Sher, who plays the title roles in both plays, is a compatriot of Hawthorne from South Africa. They lived within four miles of each other in Cape Town, though they rarely talk about it, because they feel estranged from the

country. Hawthorne recently returned there to find, despite window-dressing, the feeling of hopelessness worse than ever.

It was not the political situation, so much as the need to be an actor, which first brought Hawthorne to England. He worked with Joan Littlewood in the latter days of her time at Stratford East when she was beginning to get disenchanted. Although the magic was there, so was "the other side, which was depressingly carefree

and recklessly bad, yet the way she worked and thought remained with me". He became involved in Royal Court productions, as Prince Albert in *Early Morning*, the last Edward Bond play to be banned by the Lord Chamberlain, in other Bond plays, Christopher Hampton's *Total Eclipse* and John Osborne's *A Sense of Detachment*.

However, acclaim really arrived in the Seventies for performances in Michael Frayn's *Clouds*, in which he was a supposedly hard-nosed reporter on a facility trip to Cuba, and Peter Nichols's *Privates on Parade* as Major Flack, the bone-headed commander who lectures the troops on godliness while the Japanese advance on Singapore. He was not in the film of the play – an understandable decision, he says, as at the time of casting it was John Cleese's name that raised the money. But it would have been nice to have been told before it was actually announced in the newspapers.

After *Tartuffe*, plans are undecided.

There will only be another *Yes Minister* if the writers, Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn, feel that they can find a new way of approaching the series, bearing in mind that they have made all the jokes they can about the present situation. It has been a critical and popular success, but neither author wants to go over old ground again.

Now in his mid-fifties, Hawthorne is beginning to question whether he wants to remain in the theatre, which he finds less to his taste than filming. "I keep asking what I am doing dressing up every night, and it all seems a bit silly. I enjoy working for the camera because you are not stuck with it night after night. You don't have to have constant loyalty to it. You can do it once and you don't even have to watch it. I used to love my theatre days, the magic and make-up and pretending, but suddenly these things seem a little empty, and you wonder what you are doing it for. It is like waking up after a nice dream and thinking, now it's daylight I can see through it."

Promenade Concert
Imposing successBBCSO/Pritchard
Albert Hall/Radio 3

after the 17-minute seriousness of "Ecco ascendimus", with its perky high clarinet, chattering strings and sober trombone chorale, it presents a new, vigorous Goehr.

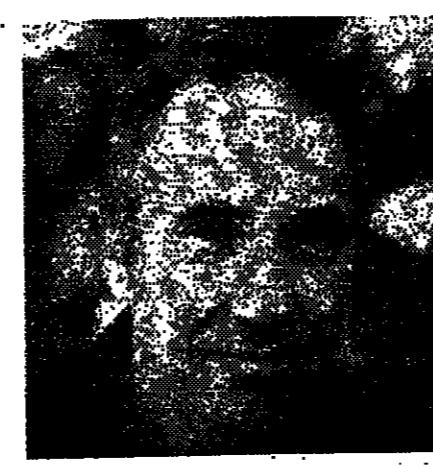
Elsewhere, the slow tread of the music was calmly, rather effectively projected by Sir John Pritchard's unfussy direction, though some problems of balance, notably the emergence of the choir's "ecco" in the third movement under a blaring brass chord, had not been solved. There are some refreshingly clear, transparent sonorities in the orchestral interludes, though I still feel (as with Goehr's recently performed Psalm 4 trilogy) that the rhythmic profile is not very strong.

Apart from some problems with the machine-gun declamation of "ecidit, ecidit" in the first movement, the Symphony Chorus sang with splendid unanimity – the cries of "sciam" in the second movement, which trail whining high woodwind and strings behind them, were vivid.

The most affecting moment, however, was the end. 51 minutes in from a particularly dense section of choral writing there is a yearning climax on "usque ad sumnum oculi", a whispery "orate" and a densely chromatic orchestral postlude which fades to an F minor close.

Nicholas Kenyon

The reality of humour



Clare Colvin meets Nigel Hawthorne, who opens in *Tartuffe* at the Pit tomorrow

TEN
SUCCESSFUL
YEARS...

The Annual Report and Accounts of the British Gas Corporation, published on July 26th, covers the tenth complete financial year since the Corporation came into being on January 1st, 1973.

During a decade which saw two international oil crises and far-reaching changes in the pattern of Britain's energy production and consumption, gas has made a vast and increasing contribution to the nation's energy needs and economic well-being.

GROWING SHARE OF ENERGY MARKET

Gas sales are almost 50 per cent higher than they were at the start of the decade, and gas now supplies over 40 per cent of all the heat used in Britain (excluding fuel used for transport). Over 2 million more households have gas now compared with ten years ago; more than half of all domestic gas customers now have central heating; and the fact that the gas share of the domestic fuel market is now over 56 per cent is evidence of a major advance in the standards of comfort enjoyed by British people generally in their homes. In the industrial and commercial markets, too, the popularity of gas has increased – roughly a third of all the heat used by industry and business is now supplied by gas.

INVESTMENT AND EXPLORATION – AND BENEFITS FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY

The massive investment required to meet the growing demand for gas is entirely self-financed. Some £4,000 million will be spent over the next five years – providing much-needed business for British firms, and creating many thousands of jobs. This year, the gas people are mounting an ambitious exploration programme, with five separate drilling rigs in operation – and every confidence that new discoveries will be made.

The biggest single gas project is the development of the Morecambe Bay gas field off the

Lancashire coast. Capital investment of £525 million to March 31 represents about half of what is needed to develop the field, and over 80 per cent of this huge sum has gone on contracts with British firms.

PROFITS FOR BRITAIN

British Gas made a current cost operating profit of £663 million in 1982/3, and the Corporation has exceeded the minimum financial target set by the Government. It also bettered the performance target agreed with the Government by reducing its net trading costs in real terms.

Much of the profit will be ploughed back into the business and thus ensure customers' gas supplies and services into the future. But a considerable sum is set aside to pay Corporation Tax and, with the cost of the gas levy and other taxes, payments to the Treasury totalled £667 million in the last financial year.

THE FUTURE

The most important benefit that British Gas activities bring is the provision of reliable, efficient, environmentally acceptable and competitively-priced energy supplies.

The gas people's investment, research and exploration programmes will help to ensure the continued availability of clean, controllable gas far into the future – for the good not only of customers, but of the nation as a whole.

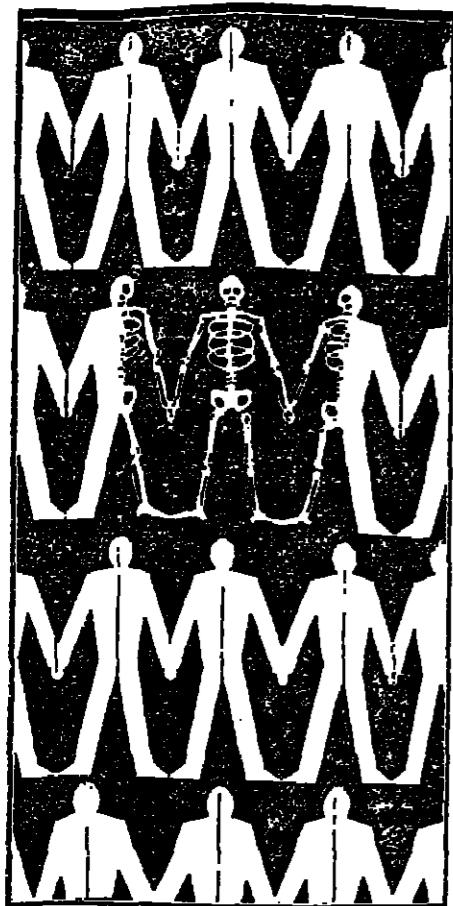
	1973/74	1982/83	
Sales of gas (million therms)	11,487	16,463	+ 4,976
Number of customers	13,532,000	15,821,000	+ 2,289,000
Number of employees	103,400	103,300	- 100
Therms sold per employee	111,100	159,400	+ 48,300
Customers per employee	131	153	+ 22

...FROM THE GAS PEOPLE

BRITISH GAS

SPECTRUM

Andrea Dworkin



You get infected. There is a period of six months when nothing happens at all. There is then a period of a year or so when you get swollen lymph nodes, feel a bit ill, run a temperature, perhaps night sweats, diarrhoea, weight loss. At the end of that period your swollen lymph nodes melt away and you start feeling better, but what you don't know is that your immune system has been completely wiped out.'

AIDS is here

by Duncan Fallowell

Significant outbreaks of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) were first noted in 1979 in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles, although a case was identified in Cologne in 1976 which is little mentioned. Diagnosis came in 1981 - most AIDS observations are in hindsight, because the disease is still moving ahead of the ability to understand it. The US presently reports 1,831 cases, approximately half diagnosed in the last six months, 684 of them dead. The take-off is exponential: the rate of increase is itself increasing.

The most alarming aspect is mortality, which breaks down as follows: diagnosed for 1979, mortality is 100 per cent; diagnosed for 1980, mortality 78 per cent; for 1981, mortality 70 per cent; for 1982, mortality 30 per cent. This is not to conclude that all cases diagnosed this year will be dead by 1987, which would presuppose that human attention is not growing as fast as the malady itself. But there has been no breakthrough in any area of inquiry.

The high risk categories (homosexuals/bisexuals, intravenous drug abusers, haemophiliacs, Haitians, female partners of any of these, infants of such females) maintain their historical percentages. Homosexuals/bisexuals are way ahead at 71 per cent of all notified cases, followed by intravenous drug abusers at 17 per cent. However, the infection, if that is what it is, is not confined to these groups. Maverick infections count for 5.8 per cent of the total. There is no absolutely risk-free category of the population, unless it be someone in isolation for the past five years (not advisable - animal tests demonstrate that isolation from bacterial onslaught itself encourages immune deficiency).

The world picture is less clear. The Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre at Colindale has figures for the UK and the US, but not for anywhere else. The World Health Organization at Geneva has up-to-date figures for Europe but not for the world as a whole. The Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, has a set of world figures but these are much too low. (The CDC computer requires complete particulars for each case before it can be incorporated into the statistics, and these are frequently incomplete, in cases reported to it from overseas.) The CDC figure for France is 13 cases including six dead, whereas the French themselves report to the WHO 59 cases including 19 dead. The WHO figures for Europe in order of severity after France are: Germany - 24 (six dead); Belgium - 21 (11 dead); UK 14 (five dead); Switzerland - 13 (one dead); Denmark - 10 (four dead). Cases distributed through other countries bring the European total towards 200.

The CDSC at Colindale has UK observation well in hand, but its inability to produce even tentative figures for anywhere else in the world except the US, is extraordinary for a unit whose job is to study disease patterns. This is typical of the well-meaning sloppiness so far governing the AIDS response in Britain. None of the seven UK doctors involved with the AIDS problem interviewed had a crack-up-to-date command of the subject.

Dr Richard Tedder, consultant virologist at the Middlesex Hospital, is particularly interested in AIDS: "I cannot believe it's not going to be a really major problem here." For every case of AIDS there are a dozen or so homosexuals attending London clinics with swollen lymph nodes persisting for more than three months. Genito-

urinary doctors say they have never seen this lymph node swelling before in such profusion. This does not mean that these men will all go on to develop a complete syndrome, but they do have one of the early symptoms.

Dr Tedder postulates AIDS thus: "You get infected. There is a period of six months when nothing happens at all. Then there is a period of a year or so when you get swollen lymph nodes, feel a bit ill, run a temperature, perhaps night sweats, diarrhoea, weight loss. At the end of that period your swollen lymph nodes melt away and you start feeling better, but what you don't know is that your immune system has been completely wiped out. At any time from then on you can come down with this unpleasant skin cancer - Kaposi's sarcoma - or any of the opportunistic infections like these bizarre pneumonias or strange infections which attack the brain. Death follows. Meanwhile you've infected a lot of other people. It's scary."

Two of the seven doctors used the word "scary", two used "terrified", all at some point used "frightened" or "frightening". There is no precedent for the spontaneous collapse of immunity in previously healthy persons. "Medically it's a completely new concept," says Dr Tom McManus (consultant venereologist at King's College Hospital). "Young men just shouldn't be dying of these previously very rare conditions."

All doctors agree that the AIDS agent is behaving like a slow, blood-borne virus. The parallels with hepatitis B were emphasized as illuminating. One of the serious difficulties in control, even if the agent were identified, is the long incubation period, one to three years, especially if, like hepatitis B, AIDS turns out to have a carrier state. The connections with homosexuals/bisexuals and with certain black populations are pronounced.

• The homosexual/bisexual connexion. At present a network of promiscuous urban homosexuality, constantly folding back on itself, provides an ideal diffusion field for any infection getting into it. Recent tests on a group of promiscuous but quite fit New York homosexuals revealed that 80 per cent were suffering some kind of immune disturbance. Immunologists were astonished by this. But has there been a comparative study of the immunity of a group of promiscuous heterosexuals? No. Or female prostitutes? No. But it is true that, although no infections are unique to homosexuality, some are characteristic.

Certain viruses, such as hepatitis B, pass well between men and from men to women, but badly from women to men or between women. Perhaps this

is because men can implant infected seminal discharge but women cannot. This facility is further increased where anal intercourse takes place: the rectal wall is only one cell thick and designed for absorption, whereas the vaginal wall is very thick and of high acidity.

But a blood-borne virus is spread by any blood-exposed activity: haemophiliacs using contaminated blood products, drug abusers using infected needles (tattoo and acupuncture needles become risk factors), mingled skin abrasions, any kind of heterosexual or homosexual sadomasochistic lovemaking, indeed all forms of group sex. AIDS does not pass through proximity. Dr William Harris (Pract Street Clinic): "Not one person working on AIDS or treating the patients has contracted it." You cannot get it walking about in the streets, and it is thought not to pass significantly through kissing, normal body contact, mutual masturbation. Can AIDS be contracted by the active partner from the infected orifice of the passive? Not known. Promiscuous homosexuality has been around for thousands of years - so why now? Not known, but this does argue for the presence of a novel agent. While AIDS is at present most noticeable among homosexuals, bisexuals, and drug addicts, it may, like hepatitis B, demonstrate an ability to spread effectively in general population.

• The black connexion. The AIDS link with Haiti and Central Africa is mysterious but real. The failure to describe AIDS in Haiti and Zaire hitherto reflects the lack of high-focus technico-medicine in these areas, plus their poor health background generally in which a complex syndrome might pass undetected. Is there any connexion between Haiti and Zaire? Only historical - the French populated Haiti with Africans from the Zaire region (perhaps some social interplay survives: no evidence). There is no significant incidence of AIDS elsewhere in the Caribbean, but another statistic: Kaposi's sarcoma makes up 9.1 per cent of all malignant cancers diagnosed in Uganda.

• The animal connexion. The connexion of an AIDS virus with animal sacrifice and the drinking of animal blood during voodoo ritual has been discredited in its sensational aspects. However, the onset of AIDS in humans and the resurgence of the versatile African Swine Fever virus in pigs took place in Haiti about the same time. They are analogous diseases. Dr Jane Teas (Harvard School of Public Health) has written: "Perhaps, an infected pig was killed and eaten either as uncooked or undercooked meat. One of the people eating the meat who was both immunocompromised and homosexual would be the pivotal point, allowing for the disease to spread to the vacationing gay tourists in Haiti." Dr Teas is too modest. If a serendipitous jump did take place it is more likely to have happened as a result of sexual relations with a pig, not a very rare activity in some places.

Animal viruses do not pass well in humans but in this case someone immunocompromised from multiple infections could have passed the virus to similarly low-resistant partners. Soon the virus would have passed sufficiently in humans to have adapted to humans not previously immunocompromised. There is constant viral and bacterial interplay between animals and humans - rabies, TB, salmonella, for example. A syndrome virtually indistinguishable from AIDS has recently decimated two colonies of monkeys, one at the Primate Research Centre, Davis, California, and another at Harvard's Primate Research Centre.

• Other theories. The virus came in on a meteorite or returning spaceship. Or was deliberately introduced into the population by a crank. Not long ago there was an American fad for putting lethal poisons in sweets and supermarket ket foods. A crank act cannot be excluded. Where would he find his virus? Immune-attack viruses have been explored at Porton Down for possible use in germ warfare, so presumably the Americans have been looking at them, too. Dr Michael Gottlieb (UCLA School of Medicine): "The more we look at this the more it looks like science fiction." But it should be remembered that in the past nature has never had any problem doing her own dirty work. The Immune Overload Theory - that the immunity of repeatedly infected ravens simply gives up - does not of itself make much sense, although such a state of affairs abets transmission.

The best that Professor Adler has been able to do so far is to call, in a letter to the *British Medical Journal*, for an informal discussion group of interested doctors limited to questions of treatment. They meet for the first time next week.

Immunology is a relatively new branch of medicine, with special application to transplant surgery in which the immune system has to be suppressed totally to prevent rejection of the new part. For a long time Kaposi's sarcoma and pneumocystis have been a problem with these patients. Symptoms of clinical paroxysms are sometimes observed in these patients also: they are vulnerable, they feel vulnerable.

One immunologist said: "I'm sure there is a psychological aspect to immunity, but it's completely unstudied and very hard to define. There is evidence that if you tone up your lifestyle, you can improve your immune system."

• The care. There is none. But if AIDS is a virus, the solution could be a vaccine prepared from the blood of infected patients just as the hepatitis B vaccine was. The problem now with the hepatitis B vaccine, which was widely used in the UK, is that it was prepared from the blood of New York homosexuals, the highest AIDS risk group. There is no evidence at all that AIDS is transmissible in hepatitis B vaccine, but there is an understandable reluctance to continue using it; last weekend it was reported from Holland that a genetically engineered "safe" substitute has been developed.

This subject is spooky, elusive and lethal. In the US it has started to catch prisons, originally through convicted drug addicts. Homosexuality is standard behaviour in prisons. Should infection generalize, how does the judiciary sentence a man to six months when he protests he might contract a fatal disease in there?

AIDS victims suffer chronic depression and one assumes suicides take place, although there are no figures. Even when they are dead some undertakers in the US are refusing to touch the corpses. When you are diagnosed with AIDS, what happens then? You just go home and sit it out, until hospitalization becomes necessary for one of the terminal afflictions. On the other hand, the presence of hepatitis B is the most potent aphrodisiac there is. Already in New York there are stories of people going on death jags.

All the seven UK doctors agree that

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

Le hot club de Londres

Maxim's opened its London doors with a flourish on a sweltering Tuesday evening. Gareth Hunt and I, the last two Avengers, tramped up to the nines, park without ceremony round the corner and press through the crowds and police on foot.

At the door we are handed butterholes, teeth flashing, cameras clicking, and we stop in. Wham! Denser than a Brazilian jungle, hotter than a Madras vindaloo, darker than a storm: the air conditioning has packed up with first night nerves, and the glamorous glitterati are thrashing about in the most expensive sauna in town. Shoulder to shoulder, our silks and pique will and crease, our newly applied make-up slates down our chins in droplets like butter. More people are pouring in and we are eased further into the scalding interior, where the noise is that of an engine room.

Three people are grouped strangely on the dance floor, eyes closed, a slight breeze playing on their damp skulls: they have found the only air vent in the building and though they sway like reeds in a river, jostled by the dripping and desperate guests, they will not give up their coveted position. As a privileged person, I am allowed upstairs to view the large half-finished private dining-rooms. I have eaten in the Paris Maxim's only once, but it appears that this one is an exact copy. On the walls, languid nymphs smile in lily ponds. Moisture is the order of the day.



The bottom of my last bikini remained floating placidly on the surface of the swimming-pool as I dived neatly into the water and out of it. Upon inspection, the elastic had perished in the fierce Malindi sun. With Crete beckoning this week, it is time for new togs.



In the large department store where I nosed some out like truffles, I found I had to try them on furiously in a large crowded chamber. The first one was just a series of coloured strings and eye-patches: the second grasped my chest like a deadly black tourne, rendering my torso breathless and unappealing. I have now borrowed Sarah's instead.

We have two days to film an interview with Dame Flora Robson in Brighton. (At the station, we give the taxi driver the address: "Oh, you're going to see Dame Flora", he says.) After the first day, I lean on the window sill of my hotel room and look out on the pier, the second of Brighton's great prizes. Two boys are slacking up the green and white striped deckchairs lining the promenade. They are shirtless and their backs are a Mediterranean bronze.

They have worked out a fool-proof, labour-saving method of collapsing the chairs: kick, split, lift, till they have six, which they pole neatly on to a low wooden platform before going back for the next lot. They are working swiftly from the ends of a long line of chairs, deserted but for the middle two. As they race inwards, two elderly women rise with thinly controlled terror and scramble for safety. By the time they reach the pavement's edge, all the deck-chairs have gone.

Twice to Brighton in one week - how funny. Usually I don't manage to get there more than once in three years. The second time is a train ride commemorating 50 years of electrification of the Brighton Line. We board the train at London Bridge: giant Disney figures, 40 children invited by British Rail and the Variety Club, a happy horde of journalists and a film crew. We leave exactly on time, and arrive in Brighton 41 minutes later, having broken the record for crisp-eating, balloon-bursting and covering the distance.

A brass band is playing on the platform; the Mayor and the Town Crier assist us on to open air buses and we trundle down to the Fun Fair. We have free rides on everything (but I dare to go only on the Big Wheel, and even that knocks it out of me). Then on a tiny train along the sea front to the Aquarium, where three dolphins leap and balance and dive for our entertainment. I am asked to be kissed by a dolphin for a photograph. Having watched carefully, I know how it's done: stop the water to get their attention, kneel leaning over the pool, and point to your lips, and



what will the princess wear? The band plays on, the excitement grows. Children in wheelchairs are propped up, costumes adjusted, hats clamped on firmly, the press photographers check their cameras, organizers check their lists, women check their make-up ("what if I had lipstick on my teeth and they stopped to talk to ME?"). We strike up nonchalant conversations, eyes darting like minnows to the gateway. Inside, 600 people have been sifted according to their invitations for pre-lunch drinks: extremely grand to the crypt, and pretty grand, but with less chance of bumping into them. In the library, Wrist watches are shaken and examined: it is 11.30 am. Suddenly, the royal car sweeps in and the great day begins.

Big soufflés, enough for say six to eight, are not really a practical proposition. On this scale the outside is inevitably overdone before the middle is warm, let alone cooked. And the alternative, individual soufflés, can only be tackled by those who have enough small soufflé dishes and an oven with unusually even heat distribution.

A hot cheese roulade is not quite as puffy and unstable, but it is just as festive looking. Fillings can be varied to suit the occasion - cottage cheese and herbs for a light lunch, cream cheese and shellfish to begin a richer or posher meal.

Cheese and seafood roulade

Serves six to eight

30 g (1 oz) butter

30 g (1 oz) plain flour

300 ml (1 pint) milk

55 g (2 oz) freshly grated Parmesan

5 eggs, separated

Salt and cayenne pepper

For the filling

225 to 340 g (8 to 12 oz) cooked fish or shellfish

225 g (8 oz) cream cheese

2 tablespoons finely chopped parsley

As soon as it is out of the

Rusheen Wynn-Jones was once described as 'A bunch of flowers on top of a volcano'. She talks to Penny Perrick

The lady is a champ

Rusheen, Lady Wynn-Jones's first name, lends itself to some ghostly puns - 'fools Rusheen', 'always Rusheen about' - that sort of thing. In fact, Rusheen is the anglicized version of Resulka, the Russian word for water nymph. And since, as a result of Rusheen's trading where angels fear to, London's waterside is in much better shape than it would otherwise have been, she is perfectly named.

On the back of the lavatory door of her Chelsea flat is a drawing of the Green Giant, the appalling office block that would now be blotting out the sunset at Vauxhall had Rusheen not put a stop to it. This was perhaps her greatest riverside victory, for the Green Giant project was organized on the sly, the public inquiry held at Brixton Town Hall over the Christmas recess. Rusheen heard about it only because, as a law student, she had helped people with eviction problems and some of the Vauxhall tenants appealed to her.

They kept on talking about something called the Green Giant and I thought they must be drunk because I didn't know what they were talking about." Once she found out what was going on, she swept into the inquiry, a wondrous sight with her shaggy blonde hair wound about with a thick plait and her lovely pink and white complexion.

Against her was George Dobry, QC, a brilliant lawyer who Rusheen the law student much admired but who, nonetheless, she insulted so roundly that the inquiry had, on occasion, to be adjourned for lunch. By chance, at a party, Rusheen heard that the Green Giant was going to be given the go-ahead. She leaked the news to *The Times*, which, she thinks, made Michael Heseltine, then Minister for the Environment, so cross that he reversed the decision.

It was after the Green Giant triumph that her late husband, Lord Wynn-Jones, said, "Rusheen, that's enough, you've got to have a qualification." They had married in 1972 when Rusheen was 24 and her husband over 70.

"My flat had just burned down and I thought it might be someone out to get me because I'd done a lot of work helping political prisoners. My husband, who was the kindest man in the world, married me to keep me out of harm's way. He thought his title would give me protection."

Knowing that she would eventually have to fend for herself, she was anxious for her to qualify as a lawyer. Nothing would have pleased Rusheen more. She has wanted to be a barrister since the age of 15 but other things got in her way. Even so, she managed to pass two A-levels with A grades in six months and hopes to take her Bar final next year.

Along the way, she failed the Revenue Law examinations because it coincided with what's become known as the Marjoribanks battle. This concerned the college of St Mark and St John, rich in historical and literary associations and straddling a pretty stretch of grassland between the King's and Fulham roads. This too was designated for office building until Rusheen, in her role

of honorary secretary of the Friends of Chelsea took up permanent camp outside Michael Heseltine's door, taking as her role model the impudent widow in the Bible who got what she wanted as a result of pestering.

The fact that the Pheasantry is still standing on its King's Road site is her work, too. "The plans to knock it down had all been passed and, as a last ditch effort, I took the developers to lunch. Sometimes, I believe I had a charmed life for once, instinct made me invite Margot Fonteyn along too. The developers turned out not only to be charming men but mad about the ballet and they tore up the plans there and then before our eyes. Without our association, I am convinced that Chelsea would now be a six-lane motorway, Croydon-type skyscraper suburb."

Her latest cause is to stop the development of Southwark, the London borough where Shakespeare wrote his greatest plays and which is now the proposed site for a huge Kuwaiti financed mirror-fronted office development. In its stead, she would like to see a permanent Shakespeare festival, providing jobs, profits and a source of pride for the people of London.

Before he died last year, Lord Wynn-Jones introduced a Bill in the House of Lords to make the heart of the capital a special conservation area, such as other capital cities are. There would be an environment council to regulate new developments along the Thames, that precious but unprotected lung of London.

Watching the Thames run sweetly by Rusheen's sitting room windows on a Saturday morning, we decided that London was so neglected and harmed by its administrators because so few, unlike out two selves, were real Londoners.

Come Friday evening, most leading politicians and top civil servants head for their country cottages. They have no love or appreciation for the quiet, beautiful city of Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens, the secret London known only to those of us who live as well as work here, seven days a week.

Knowing little and caring less, no wonder they allow developers to do their worst. Rusheen's solution is for the chairman of the GLC to become Mayor of London and to oversee the special environment council which her husband envisaged. More immediately, she is preparing one of her husband's envisaged.

COMMENT

We must stop this madness

"You would have a different attitude if you knew your own child's life could be saved by a painful experiment on a living animal." So goes the taunt. My answer is that if my own child's life could be saved by slowly torturing my best friend I might well tell them to go ahead. In other words, I would not be the right person to ask, in those circumstances, what is, or is not, legitimate in saving a human life. My judgment would be impaired.

Since happily I am not in that position, it is disgusting to me that animals are caged and then subjected to painful or frightening procedures so that humans may live longer, be more beautiful, smoke more safely or buy more convenient detergents. I have no objection to experiments which do not worry the animals - or even to those which end in humanely inflicted death.

Everyone knows the arguments for and against vivisection in general, so I won't remind them. But there is one class of experiment which is so different from the rest that it cries out for a specific and relentless campaign until it is ended. These are ones associated with psychological stress. For a number of reasons they are especially awful.

First, these experiments are precisely designed to inflict, and then examine, psychological processes like fear, anxiety, isolation, withdrawal, despair - the ingredients of madness. The animals' distress is not a by-product of the experiments - not simply a regrettable but unavoidable feature; it is integral to its purpose. Healthy animals are subjected to such processes as removal when very young from their mother, being kept in solitary confinement, being given electric shocks, being kept awake, being left in water from which they cannot escape, having their brains exposed and stimulated being tortured by extremes of temperatures.

Last year in Britain, more than 25,000 animals were given aversion stimuli, including electric shocks, to see how quickly they learnt to avoid them. Some, of course, never did - and so went painfully mad.

Since these experiments are designed to test distress of some kind, anaesthesia is out of the question.

Since mental illnesses and neuroses associated with stress, parental deprivation and so on are on the increase among humans, we can expect that this will be an expanding field for the behavioural scientists who use animals. Already they are demanding - if necessary breeding - millions of animals specifically for such experiments. If we put a stop to this now, they will be forced to the devise research which uses humans - the proper material for the study of human psychology - and cannot therefore involve cruelty. There is already a huge vested interest in this industry; we should seek to diminish it.

The animals most in demand for psychological research are those with highly developed nervous systems and thought processes. In practice this means dogs, cats and especially monkeys. The demand for these is based precisely on their capacity to feel a similar range of emotions to those of humans. Surely it is intolerable that we should subject them to distress on the grounds that their reactions are so like ours.

As a result of recent publicity starting with the "smoking beagles", there is at last a groundswell of public indignation about animal experiments. It is no longer focused only on painful physical experiments. Psychological experiments are a growing proportion of the total. The present Government should stop prevaricating about new legislation over the medical use of animals. The rest of us should make it clear that we regard experiments inflicting psychological stress - especially in our own interests - as morally intolerable, empirically useless and wholly unacceptable.

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THE TIMES COOK

Shona Crawford Poole

Roll up for cheese

oven, cover the roulade with a clean tea cloth, then turn over the tin and cloth together, depositing the roulade on the cloth. Peel off the paper.

Whisk the egg whites until they hold stiff peaks and fold the meringue into the cheese sauce. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin and spread it evenly. Bake the mixture in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 15 minutes, or until it is just firm.

For the filling, flake the fish, or break the shellfish into small pieces. Beat the cream cheese until it is smooth, adding a spoonful or two of cream or milk if it is too thick to spread on the delicate soufflé mixture. Spread the cream

cheese on the roulade to within 1 cm (½ inch) of each edge, sprinkle it with the chopped herbs and season it with salt and cayenne. Scatter the fish or shellfish evenly over the cream cheese.

Now using the cloth to help, fold the roulade, roll it, swiss roll fashion, from one long side to the other.

Lay the roulade on an ovenproof serving dish and brush it with the melted butter. Sprinkle the grated Parmesan over it and bake for another 10 to 15 minutes at (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4). Serve in thick slices on warmed plates.

Cheese pudding is the simplest of old fashioned dishes. It is comforting food - light and tasty and just the thing for lunch or supper when a soufflé would be too much trouble. It is that handy kind of recipe which can as easily be made for one or two as for six. Just double or triple the quantities and increase the baking time. Any well flavoured cheese will do for cheese pudding which can be served on its own or with a crisp salad and crusty bread.

Cheese pudding Serves two to three

110 g (4 oz) sharp cheddar, grated.

55 g (2 oz) fresh breadcrumbs, brown or white.

2 large eggs.

450 ml (¾ pint) milk.

Salt and pepper.

Freshly grated nutmeg to taste.

Combine all the ingredients, stir well and pour the mixture into a buttered ovenproof dish of about 900 ml (1½ pints) capacity. A small soufflé or pie dish is ideal. Bake the pudding in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 40 minutes, or until it is firm, golden and slightly puffed. Serve hot.

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All at sea

The most challenging election address of candidates in the Penrith by-election is that of Lieutenant-Colonel Eric Morgan. It says of him: "He served in the Great Western Approaches, Barde, after which Doenitz admitted defeat and was awarded the DSC - by post. No party at the Palace?" I should think not, indeed. Another sentence says: "Qualified as a master mariner from 1933, he served in submarines as a specialist until, because of age, he had to re-specialize as an anti-submarine specialist". You must admit, it is difficult to unravel - and I have not even got to the policies yet.

Teeny talent

"Bop in and meet our new Teenage Talent when we are boozing at the Titanic Club (chink, chink), Berkeley Square, to launch the August 'Teenage Issue of *Harpers & Queen*. See you on board with the stars. Dress: glitzy." Teenagers were pretty thin on the ground, but I did manage to find one, an adolescent young lady sporting a pink lampshade and a Bucks Fizz, who told me she was 13 years old, a pupil at Bedales and had always wanted to be a journalist. She had contributed six lines about sex to the current issue ("I think I would like to stay a virgin until I am married") and wrote poetry between commissions. I tried and failed to talk her out of wanting to be a journalist. She didn't know what "glitzy" meant either.

Sinking in

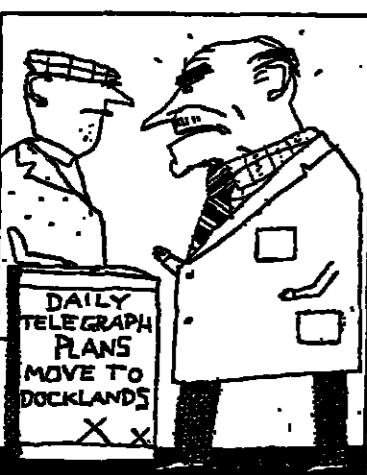
About 40 million Chinese, more than the population of Spain, live in caves, and the Government is running a campaign to encourage the practice. Architects and planners are beavering away to help peasants build and improve homes that are officially deemed low cost, energy efficient and consonant with "architectural tradition and ecological balance". There is even a dig-it-yourself scheme, and Jin Kubo, vice-president of the Architectural Society of China, looks forward to the day when all mod cons will

• Finnish, according to the English-language magazine of the Finnish tourist board. Look at Finland, has "approximately a thousand words to denote intoxication". Do not mock. We could not pronounce most of them, even when sober.

People's pitch

From Liège, Belgium, those litigious buskers Bongo Mike and Jeremy, who perform as "Gutter Music by the Dossers" and who have just passed the rapporteur stage in their efforts to bring the British Government before the European Court of Human Rights on the ground of unfair police harassment, phone to chide me for my recent report of Don Crown and his accident-prone Busking Budgies in which I referred to Leicester Square as "his pitch". "Leicester Square belongs to everybody", they say.

BARRY FANTONI



Country's going to the Isle of Dogs

Royal flush

Even the mind of PHS occasionally boggles at the sheer multiplicity of unrelated events to which this most inconsequential corner of the newspaper is privy. Yesterday, for example, I learned that Wilkinson has designed a "Celebration Sword" as a wedding present for the couple who have everything; that a "Slipping, Tripping and Falling Accidents" conference to be held in Guildford next year is actually the second such (my thanks to *Tablet*, the official magazine of the Back Pain Association); that the Market Research Society has mounted a campaign to stamp out "sugaring", door-to-door salesmen posing as market researchers, and best of all that 250 miles of toilet rolls were used during the Royal Show at Stoneleigh... that's 12,000 altogether, or one for every 16 people.

The long lamented blue butterfly is to be reestablished in Britain if the World Wildlife Fund succeeds in its attempt to introduce a continental strain to suitable habitats here. The project is one of 29 concerning butterfly conservation and such is the charisma of swallowtail, gatekeeper, Duke of Burgundy, fritillary and the like that WWF has taken the exceptional step of seeking corporate sponsorship on a project basis rather than the more usual appeals for cash on the grounds that WWF is generally a Good Thing. The large blue can be yours for £9,200; a butterfly survey of Cardigan, on the other hand, is a real snip at £500.

PHS

Paul Routledge on the strike threatening the TUC's credibility

The FT dispute: a family crisis for the unions

Leaders of the National Graphical Association, the print union whose members have halted production of the *Financial Times* for the past eight weeks, will be in the dock this morning at the monthly meeting of the TUC general council. The charge undermining the credibility of the TUC by refusing to accept a mediator's award that carries the personal imprimatur of Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary.

Today's hearing behind closed doors in the council chamber marks the start of a tortuous process of disciplining within the labour movement that could end in the suspension or even expulsion of one of the TUC's strongest affiliates.

The 38 members of that most exclusive "club", the general council, will be asked to endorse a recommendation from their so-called "inner cabinet" that the NGA should be advised under the rules governing the conduct of affiliated organizations to accept the report of Mr Andrew Kerr, mediator of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), which gives no increase in the company's offer of £304 a week for the 22 striking machine minders at the *FT*.

How is it that the TUC, which exists to "promote the interests of its affiliates and their members", now finds itself in the position of seeking to compel a member union in conflict with an employer to accept a settlement which that union regards as unsatisfactory and contradictory to all previous pay bargaining in the industry?

This question lies at the heart of the constitutional crisis building up within the TUC as a result of Mr Murray's attempt to act as a peacemaker in the jungle of Fleet Street industrial relations. Not for the first time, a newspaper management fell back on the family persuasion skills of the TUC after despairing of solutions to the conflicting claims and counter-claims of manual and craft employees.

But for the first time in the memory of most of the combatants, family discipline has failed and the TUC is caught up in an imbroglio from which it will be difficult to emerge with approval on all sides. If the NGA persists in its recalcitrance,

the logic of the disciplinary process will lead to expulsion, and a national stoppage of the newspaper industry could ensue if other unions seek to produce the *FT*.

If the TUC fails to impose its will on the NGA, however, who will trust its ability to deliver in the future? That is the burden of the argument underlying Mr Murray's position. It is unlikely to be spelled out in such brutal detail this morning, but the general council members are old hands at the game and will not need a chalk-and-blackboard presentation of the case.

They are also unlikely to be in as much a hurry as the *FT* management would wish. The TUC's mills may grind extremely small, but they also grind extremely slow. There is a long, drawn-out process to be followed before any union can be cast out of the family. Today the general council will content itself with giving formal "advice" to the mediator's report.

This will be tendered to the union by letter, and the union will be expected to reply in the same way within a week or two saying whether it intends now to accept the TUC line. The NGA's national council, which would take such a decision, is not due to meet until August 10-11, though it could be called into emergency session before that date.

Continuing defiance by the NGA would land its leaders back in the dock at a further meeting of the general council, either at the routine monthly session on August 24, or at a special session before that date. The formal "advice" would then be converted into a "direction" under Congress Rule 13 if general council-

ers believe that the NGA's conduct is "detrimental to the interests of the trade union movement".

Only if that direction is defied must the general council decide whether to suspend the NGA until the next annual Trades Union Congress - which just happens to be in six weeks' time. Suspension is not mandatory; the general council has discretionary powers and some union leaders may not wish to take such a final step.

It is not the first time that the NGA has been "out of the family". In the early 1970s, the union refused to obey a Congress instruction to deregister under the Heath government's ill-fated 1971 Industrial Relations Act. And rather than face suspension and then expulsion (as more than 20 other rebels did), the NGA resigned from the TUC. It was allowed in two years later after paying subscriptions for the years it was in the wilderness, during which time it had been protected from membership "poaching" by its closed shop agreements with employers.

Since rejoining, the NGA has been practically a model union, playing a strong political and industrial role in the TUC. Its policy motions on such key issues as opposition to the Thatcher administration's labour law reforms have been selected as the mainstay of Congress policy. Nor would it be light matter to turn the craft printworkers out of the movement. Nor would such a radical move, for which there is no obvious precedent, necessarily bring the *FT* back on the streets. For other TUC affiliated unions - in this case Sogat 82 and the NUJ - to be drawn into producing the paper

without the NGA would require a rider to the original suspension order.

Like the Fleet Street misfits from which the crisis stems, the constitutional dilemma of the TUC is therefore complex and acute. Mr Murray clearly did not want to make a judgment about the merits of the dispute; he simply wanted to ease the parties towards a solution that would save face on both sides. By arranging mediation that would be "respected" by the union and have the underpinning of his personal authority, he believed that a proper procedure for the resolution of the dispute had been found.

But that procedure itself, the standing of it, the observance of it, and the credibility of the TUC attached to it, has now become the focal point of conflict rather than the immediate issues of pay and manning in the machine room of St Clements Press. The TUC general secretary is said privately to have warned the NGA leaders that if the TUC got involved in their dispute, then the union would have to honour the outcome - short of the mediator "taking leave of his senses". The NGA is said to have given assurances that it would go along with that view.

It is refusal - or inability, whichever way you look at it - to do so has drawn the whole movement into a confrontation that all parties may live to regret. It has also conjured up fears about the wider implications for Fleet Street: fears that the white-collar and semi-skilled Sogat 82 might be seeking to muscle in on the NGA's historic territory in the machine and composing rooms, particularly when the newspapers begin to move out to new, high-technology plants in London's abandoned dockland.

One NGA official predicted that if the TUC goes ahead with suspension and an invitation to other unions to produce the *FT* "our people will need no encouragement they will stop Fleet Street immediately". Such sympathy action would be contrary to the 1980 Employment Act, and newspaper publishers would have to consider court action for damages. That way lies the unthinkable in industrial relations terms.

The author is Labour Editor of The Times.

James Curran

The Tories' own militant tendency

Nothing reveals more clearly the Victorian hubris of this Government than its proposals for reform of the trade unions. Before seeking to democratize the unions, Conservative politicians should put their own house in order.

This point is made embarrassingly but effectively by a pressure group within the Conservative Party, the Set the Party Free (SPF) Charter Movement. It is urging the adoption of new democratic procedures within the Conservative Party including the election of national officers, an elected governing body, an elected policy committee and the democratic selection and reselection of parliamentary candidates.

Already SPF has displayed some of the flair that enabled another pressure group, the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, to turn the Labour Party upside down. At last year's conference SPF organized a mock ballot to elect the undemocratically appointed party chairman - and persuaded a third of the representatives to take part in "the election". This has been followed by the publication of *Democracy in Political Parties*, one of the most effective political pamphlets I have read in years.

SPF's task is, of course, much more difficult than that of its Labour counterpart. The Conservatives lack the emotional attachment to democracy and representative tradition of the Labour Party. After all it was not until 1965 that the first Conservative leader was elected by a democratic ballot of MPs. Even now the Conservative leader is able to exercise an autocratic authority within the party through unformed powers of appointment and patronage that make the most authoritarian union ayatollah (such as the present chairman of the TUC) seem like a submissive eunuch.

But although it will be difficult for SPF to make headway against the entrenched power of the Conservative leadership it has already won the intellectual argument within the party. This is illustrated by the Government's proposals for reform of the trade unions. When read as if they refer to the Conservative Party, they are a powerful endorsement of SPF's case.

Consider, for example these excerpts from the Green and White papers on trade union democracy amended (shown in italics) to relate to the Conservative Party.

"In the case of the Conservative Party, the role and influence of the White Paper, so that each Conservative Party member must be able to vote directly for members of the governing body" (Para. 3).

"Repeatably it needs to be noted that the rules of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations do not provide for direct elections by the members for the candidates of their choice for the National Union Executive Committee" (Para. 28). The National

Union Executive Committee does not in any real sense govern the party, which is effectively controlled by officers appointed by the leader.

But the part of the Government's Green Paper which would send a chill down the spine of most Conservative MPs if it were applied to their own organizations, is that which deals with the democratic reselection of representatives. "The question of the basis for the exercise of representative authority arises at every level of the Conservative Party's structures... the MP may have performed that role for a great many years without the members he represents ever questioning whether he should continue to do so and consequently without the question ever being put to them in a formal way."

Of course the Government does not take its own arguments entirely seriously. It has no intention of extending the reforming principles it is applying to trade unions to other far less democratic institutions. It does not intend, for example, to give workers the right to determine who manages their pension funds, or even to establish basic rights of information, consultation and representation in private or public corporations. Nor will the Government require a ballot of shareholders or workers before companies contribute donations to the Conservative Party.

It is merely mouthing a set of arguments that enable it to mount a further attack on the unions. Buried in this attack is a dagger pointing straight at the heart of Labour: the new proposals will shrink both union political funding and affiliated membership of the party.

But opponents should not be provoked into a knee-jerk reaction to all Norman Tebbit's proposals. Direct election of union officers and secret ballots before strikes (though this should be combined with ballots for ending strikes) are desirable in those unions where it does not already happen. Democratic ballots for the retention of union political funds are also right in principle, however uncomfortable the consequences.

The more controversial part of the Government's case is that society has the right to set the ground rules for the democratic sanctioning of key institutions in society. Though this is rejected by the TUC, it is a perfectly reasonable argument. Indeed it should become the rationale for the democratic reform of a wide variety of institutions, from the media to the judiciary. One task of a future Labour government may even be, to paraphrase Norman Tebbit: "To give the Conservative back to its members".

"Democracy in Political Parties. Available from Set the Party Free, 91 Berry Street, London, N.9. The author is editor of New Socialist.

Anne Sofer

Cutting back on the big spenders

One of the priorities the Government has set itself for its first session is to "deal with" local government spending. Menace, threat, bribe and blackmail having failed to curb what are regarded as the excesses of that clutch of Labour councils, mainly in London, who persistently spend above government targets, local democracy is now to be wound up. The Government will give itself total power to control spending, and fix a ceiling on the rates.

If you live in the area of one of those councils and depend on its services you may be in for a rough ride and it won't be a bit funny. But if you do not, then prepare for the best live political knock-about farce you have seen for a long time. It will leave Yes Minister and anyone for Den standing. And it will run and run.

The trailer will come with the rate-fixing for the next financial year (1984-5) in the spring. The legislation will not yet have been passed, but there will be plenty of shadow-boxing, grim warnings from the Secretary of State, self-righteous defiance from the Labour Councils. In opposite corners: Ken Livingstone and Patrick Jenkins, Frances Morell and Margaret Thatcher. What a fight! What a spectacle!

The action will really start when we come to the budget planning for the following financial year (1985-6). The councils will announce their budgets continued expansion. The government will demand a lower figure. Then we come to an intriguing question: Who decides what the figure will be? Will the figures go to Cabinet? "Good God, Patrick, you can't letington get away with such a small reduction."

Or will the figures be determined by an abstract formula run through a Whitehall computer? (If $x = 1981-2$ outturn and $y =$ social deprivation indices weighted by a formula of 17 for every 1,000 single grandparents and every 53 houses without a washing machine, $r =$ the outstanding debt, and $q =$ the total of councillors' attendance allowances in the last financial year, then the budget shall be

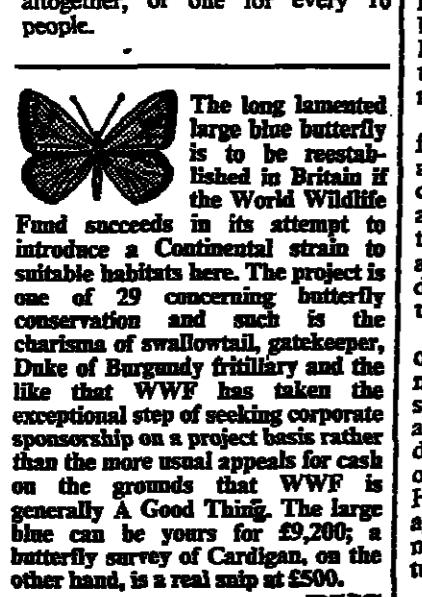
$$y = \frac{17x + r}{100} + q$$

The trouble with such formulas is that the results are always politically embarrassing. A council widely publicized by the popular press as a notorious overspender turns out to be below target, and an unobtrusive Tory council that has been quietly minding its own business and providing good services suddenly bows up as an over-spender.

The author is the SDP member of the GLC and Iota for Camden, St Pancras North.

Jonathan Mirsky

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The Dalai Lama: a nightmare for Peking?



The Dalai Lama: a nightmare for Peking?

Even the mind of PHS occasionally boggles at the sheer multiplicity of unrelated events to which this most inconsequential corner of the newspaper is privy. Yesterday, for example, I learned that Wilkinson has designed a "Celebration Sword" as a wedding present for the couple who have everything; that a "Slipping, Tripping and Falling Accidents" conference to be held in Guildford next year is actually the second such (my thanks to *Tablet*, the official magazine of the Back Pain Association); that the Market Research Society has mounted a campaign to stamp out "sugaring", door-to-door salesmen posing as market researchers, and best of all that 250 miles of toilet rolls were used during the Royal Show at Stoneleigh... that's 12,000 altogether, or one for every 16 people.

The stakes are high. Tibet is not Shangri-la and the Dalai Lama is more than an agreeable mystic imagined by some to be more than 2,000 years old. For the Chinese, Tibet is their largest piece of territory, and of central strategic importance. For the international community, however, Tibet is the panda among nations: unique, exotic, harmless - and endangered by the single great example of communist Chinese aggression.

The Chinese, therefore, are attempting to win universal favour by luring the Dalai Lama to Tibet, but not as the restored leader. For his part, the man said to be the 56th Reincarnation of the Compassionate Buddha and the 14th Dalai Lama is thinking of going home, but not as a returning Chinese citizen:

The Dalai Lama is believed by his followers to be the supreme spiritual and temporal figure of an independent country. The Chinese see him as a Tibetan religious leader. Suggestions of anything more are derided as impudence and pretension, and dismissed as ignorance of Tibet's traditional subservience to China.

But whereas Chinese emperors operating over vast distances could not enforce their Tibetan suzerainty, since the 1950 communist "liberation", Peking has backed its directives in Tibet with full military occupation. In 1980, party chairman Hu Yaobang journeyed to Lhasa to apologize publicly for Chinese misrule, especially during the Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976.

There all but a dozen of the region's more than 2,000 monas-

tic sites were destroyed and Buddhism and the Tibetan written language proscribed. It is now admitted that forbidding the cultivation of barley brought tens of thousands of Tibetans to the edge of starvation.

Now Peking regrets the Maoist heavy hand. Its enormous garrison, said to number 250,000 (Tibet's population is under 2 million) keeps close to barracks, and Chinese officials, who do not bother to conceal their distaste for local

religion, food, and personal habits, are at last learning Tibetan.

"Of course Tibet isn't really Chinese," one of these cadres told me. "It's important strategically. We've got to keep the Russians and the Indians out. And US missile bases."

The problem for Peking, then, is how to woo the Dalai Lama without weakening China's sovereignty. A number of the Dalai Lama's delegations, including one in 1980

to

is



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PARENTS AND THE PILL

When a girl who is under sixteen presents herself at a clinic or surgery and asks for the pill the situation of the doctor is both less and more than medical. It is less than medical because the dispensing of contraceptives is a function he shares with chemists, barbers' shops and vending machines. The girl is there rather than elsewhere because the type of contraceptive she is looking for is one that is properly classified among the drugs that can be had only on a doctor's prescription. Only in the Republic of Ireland are all contraceptive devices supposedly on medical prescription, not because of the advanced state of Irish medicine but for the purpose of social control.

The doctor's situation is more than medical because the advice he gives and the treatment he offers impinge directly on the child's sexual and emotional development and therefore on her welfare in a sensitive and fundamental respect. It was Mrs Gillick's contention, in the law suit she has just lost, that by acting in that way quite independently of a child's parents doctors make a gross invasion of parents' final responsibility for the moral upbringing and general welfare of their children.

Several issues fell to be decided in her action. It was argued for Mrs Gillick that since sexual intercourse with a girl who is under sixteen is a criminal offence (for the man, not for the girl) prescribing contraceptives for such an encounter would itself be tainted with criminality. The judge allowed that that would be the case if a doctor "were misguided enough" to provide contraceptive advice and assistance to a girl under sixteen or a man "with the intention thereby of encouraging them to have sexual intercourse"; the doctor would be an accessory to the offence.

The judge assumed however that that would not usually be the attitude of the doctor.

Despite being firmly against the commission of unlawful sexual intercourse, the doctor might suppose that intercourse would nevertheless take place and conclude that the provision of contraceptives would be in the best interest of the girl in protecting her from an unwanted pregnancy and reducing the risk of venereal disease. The pill would be seen not as an instrument of a crime, but a palliative against its consequence. The law would exonerate the doctor.

Some such distinction in law conforms to present-day social requirements. The elements of the accessory charge outlined by the judge might just - bite on officious missionaries of sexual liberation when they preach among children, which would be a good thing. Yet when presented with the fact of fixed sexual liaison or habitual promiscuity of an under-age girl, presumed to be impervious to the entreaties or reproaches of her elders, it would not do that doctors should be prohibited from providing contraception by an extended application of the Sexual Offences Act.

It also fell to be decided whether a girl under sixteen is legally capable of giving consent to medical treatment. The question has not been ruled upon before. No statute decides it. The judge declined to be absolute. The fact of her age, he said, does not automatically mean that she cannot give her consent to any treatment. It would depend on the child's maturity and understanding and the nature of the treatment. This preservation of a discretion answers to the limitless variation of human situations, personalities and relationships within similar contexts. But it lays a heavy responsibility of right judgment - on doctors once again - in circumstances where it will not be easy for them to become acquainted with all the factors on which the judgment should be based.

LONDON TRANSPORT'S FALLING DOWN

"Londoners became proud of our buses and tubes", after they were taken into public ownership in the early 1930s, Herbert Morrison claimed in his autobiography. "I am sorry to see how this good will has for some reason declined in recent years." That was in 1960. A quarter century on, after the transfer of London Transport to the Greater London Council, after "fares fair" the good will still declines.

Now Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Transport, whose white paper was published yesterday, promises a new start, a restoration of that Morrisonian good will.

He disappoints. Here in his plan is not what might have been expected from a government that - in other nationalized industries - is sanguine about bringing in private capital. Private capital built the District and the Metropolitan Lines; private capital financed the switch from horse-drawn to petrol-driven buses; is there no role for it now? Mr King seems all too content to accept the regulatory bureaucratic framework of Traffic Commissioners and the impediments they build to competition even at the

margins of the LT service. (Can a white paper on London Transport seriously ignore the whole issue of taxi-cabs and their regulation?)

With privatization neglected, does Mr King choose full-blown Morrisonianism, adapted to the conditions of the 1980s - a doctrine which would surely advocate not merely marriage of the LT network with British Rail's London and South Eastern routes but would recognize that the planning of the roads cannot be separate? The GLC may have served its term as a representative body but the case for its function of strategic transport planning - linking the volume of private road traffic to bus and train use - is still strong.

Mr King offers a stop-gap which looks in part like nothing more than a hasty effort to wrest London Transport from the clutches of Mr Livingstone and his colleagues at County Hall. The most serious omission is finance. The majority of Londoners care little about the detail of public administration and, sadly, about representative self-government; they do care about fares and levels of service. Mr King's duty in this white paper

was to tell the public some hard facts of life about subsidizing public transport in an aging city with Edwardian tunnels and a pattern of movement that brings commuters in daily from the greenward of far Kent and Essex.

At present some £650 million of public money is paid to keep down LT and British Rail fares. Abolishing the GLC will not abolish the choice: either the inhabitants of London pay a good proportion of that through a local tax (at present the rates collected by the GLC) or they sponge on the taxpayers of the nation at large. Mr King hints at giving his new transport quango powers to raise a precept - taxation without representation at its crudest, since the quango will contain no elected members. And yet, the public would forgive Mr King and his successors for taking Mussolini's powers if they cleaned the stations and made the trains run on time. However, to achieve that Mr King must guarantee large and continuing levels of public investment. In a month when Mr Lawson is breathing down every spender's neck, Mr King is dead silent on the sources of that capital.

SURVIVAL SI, SUCCESS NO

It is 30 years since Fidel Castro attacked the Moncada Barracks in Santiago de Cuba, his first spectacular move in a long career of revolutionary voluntarism. He has now been in power for nearly 25 years. He was the first Latin American to discover Marxism-Leninism to be an unbeatable justification for staying in power, and to instill with it the Soviet apparatus that supports the justification. The Soviet Union has supported its economy, and the United States has conveniently relieved him of hundreds of thousands of opponents and undesirables. His spell is still potent: it is the prospect of "other Cubas" that disturbs the United States in Central America. As certainly as Che Guevara was a great poster, Castro has been a great survivor.

Even the credulous - and Castro has been the beneficiary outside his island of more credulity than any other leader of his time - no longer argue that the Cuban economy is a success or is on the verge of success. The fantasies of the "new man" responding to "moral incentives", the 10 million ton sugar harvest, the multiple varieties of tropical cheese are figments past. Cuba suffers from the de-

ficiencies of Soviet planning, made worse by the unfamiliar milieu and from the vagaries of the world market. One third of Cuban trade is outside Comecon, and is depressed. The island has also a substantial foreign debt. The domestic achievements of the regime no longer excite the same enthusiasm as they did in the sixties, and against them have to be balanced the repression, uniformity and rigidity. Cuba will take tourists with dollars, but no longer welcomes the fellow traveller.

Has this disappointing record at home been compensated for by success abroad? With the Kennedy-Khrushchev agreement of 1962, Castro became the first Latin American leader consistently to defy the United States and get away with it; and the first world figure produced by Latin America in the 20th century. He caused the Alliance for Progress; he became a leader of the non-aligned. His troops are in Angola and the Horn of Africa; and his advisers in a score of countries. He is not everywhere seen as a simple puppet of the Soviet Union.

These are achievements. However, the African ventures are not likely to be successfully

repeated; they are expensive and yield diminishing diplomatic returns. Cuban dependence on the Soviet Union can elsewhere be embarrassingly obvious as in her support for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In Latin America, Cuba's strategy of subversion appeared to enjoy little success in the 1970s; there were few opportunities to exploit before the advent of the Sandinistas in Nicaragua.

A long-term settlement in central America may imply either the effective isolation of Cuba or some sort of an agreement with Cuba. "Normalization" of relations with the United States has its disadvantages as well as its advantages for Havana, but isolation and confrontation have their disadvantages too. Castro has indicated to the Conlässada Group that he prefers dialogue. Too great a show of enthusiasm from Castro will not make their initiatives more acceptable to the United States, but too intransigent a reaction from Washington will not effectively isolate him: it may even increase his attractions. The 30 year anniversary of Moncada will be marked by more than the usual rhetoric, but the occasion is more than usually significant.

Sharing burden of the recession

From Mr A. E. De Barr

Sir, Terence Beckett and the CBI call for extra cuts in state spending and a reduction in public service employment of 360,000; otherwise, they say, there is a real danger that taxation will rise. From one point of view they may well be right but what they are, in effect, saying is that unless the spending power of those 360,000 persons and their families is drastically reduced in this way, part of the burden of recession will have to be carried by those still in employment by way of increased taxation.

In the same issue (July 21) you report the steady growing rise in the living standards of those in work. Why should the whole burden of recession be borne by an unfortunate and, to a large extent, arbitrarily chosen 10 per cent or so of the population? Why, in times of recession, should those fortunate enough to remain in employment not bear increased taxation to help to maintain the living standards of those who have no jobs?

For some people redundancy and unemployment may provide the incentive to start up the new, small, industries upon which the future of our economy seems likely increasingly to depend; for others they may provide the incentive to move into jobs in which they can be more productively employed. It would be a mistake to remove these stimuli by too much cushioning of unemployment, but there seems to be little danger of that!

For most of those unemployed there are just no wealth-producing occupations open, and on moral, social and economic grounds fair sharing of the burden of recession - aggravated and prolonged as it currently is by the advance of automation - should surely have priority in the plans of any government.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. E. DE BARR,
82 Rosewood Lane,
Higher Hunsfield,
Cheshire,
Cheshire,
July 22.

New Labour daily

From Mr Reginald Noquet

Sir, There was a significant juxtaposition at the foot of "Letters to the Editor" in last Saturday's issue (July 16).

Mr Enid Macbeth, of Stock, Essex, asked how a Labour daily would deal with the NGA, and Mr John Colleson of Hanwell, N7 (sic) quoted an amusing misprint. The day before, Mr W. T. Booroff, London Region Secretary of the NGA, sought to defend the union.

In other spheres of commerce and industry than printing, a wage of £304 a week requires a good deal of responsibility to be carried. How, then, do the print unions explain the appalling number of misprints - sometimes whole lines repeated or omitted - in every issue of *The Times*? What has become of the "ancient skills" once cited in support of their handsome pay rates?

One thing is certain: a new Labour daily (very desirable in itself) will not be able to afford their services.

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD NOQUET,
3 Cauldon Crescent,
Swanage,
Dorset,
July 20.

Matrimonial links

From Mr Mervyn Tower

Sir, I am not sure that the remarks made by Mr Longley about Catholic Marriage Tribunals (July 18) made sufficiently clear the following distinction.

1. A valid marriage *ratum et consummatio* is indissoluble in the eyes of the Catholic Church. Only in very special circumstances, as Mr Longley points out, are the Pauline and Petrine privileges invoked to dissolve such a marriage.

2. Catholic Marriage Tribunals, therefore, claim no competence over the dissolution or non-dissolution of marriages. Their work is to attempt to determine whether or not the criteria for a valid marriage in the eyes of the Catholic Church were present at the time of the marriage itself and an annulment is a statement that such criteria were not present.

The marriage is then deemed null and void from the moment of its inception. This is quite different from dissolution, which acknowledges that the marriage in question has existed.

Yours sincerely,
MERVYN TOWER,
Holy Family Presbytery,
763 Coventry Road,
Birmingham,
July 18.

Tour ban anomalies

From Mr N M Forster

Sir, It was inevitable that the vote against a South Africa tour by the MCC members yesterday (report, July 14) should have been seen as a vote against South African cricket. It is not.

Many members, including myself, would be delighted to see cricket links restored with South Africa, whose cricketing authorities have done everything asked of them to eliminate racial discrimination in their sport. What we were reluctant to do was to allow our club to be dragged into the stinking miasma of hypocrisy which surrounds this issue; nor did we think it would help South African cricket.

For a stinking miasma it certainly is! Cricketers can apparently go to South Africa individually but not as a team, because they would then represent our country - but what does our Embassy do? Companies can trade with South Africa, but cricketers cannot exercise their

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Problems of achieving union reform

From Mr Vernon Bogdanor

Sir, Amongst Mr Tebbit's recent proposals for trade union reform is the suggestion that the 1973 Act regulating political contributions by trade unions be amended so that unions are required to hold regular ballots to determine whether or not their members wish to maintain political funds.

Such a proposal seems self-evidently reasonable, since many unions have not consulted their members on this question for over 15 years. Yet, in the overall context of the financing of political parties, it could generate a sense of unfairness by tilting the balance against a party, the bulk of whose financial support comes from the trade unions, in favour of parties - the Conservatives, Liberals and SDP - which seek company donations.

The rules regulating the political contributions made by trade unions are, after all, more restrictive than those regulating company contributions, in that trade unions (but not companies) are required to make contributions from a separate political fund and to allow individual members of the union to "contract out" of the political levy if they so wish. It hardly seems fair to add to these restrictions while continuing to allow companies to make political donations without previously obtaining the approval of their shareholders.

There is a danger that Mr Tebbit's proposal will appear vindictive and if that happens he will be unable to achieve the very necessary reforms which he is seeking.

Mr Tebbit has got himself into difficulty through treating the arrangements for paying the political levy as an aspect of trade union reform whereas in reality it should be part and parcel of a review of the

The price of housing

From Mr Bernard Kilroy

Sir, General economists of Tim Congdon's stature are now recognizing the "leakage" of housing credit into consumer spending (feature, July 14), long the concern of housing analysts. Indeed its recent growth may explain why house prices have not been fuelled faster.

However, if leakage has caused an upturn in spending activity, is that good news for the real economy?

Very little housing credit finds its way into new housing construction - perhaps a seventh of the £14bn of 1982 mortgage advances. Over half of all housing credit is for "equity withdrawal" to finance either existing houses changing hands or, if it is not saved, consumer spending (and imports).

On the basis of the latest published National Movers' Survey (1973), this latter leakage was

potentially some £2bn in 1982, perhaps 10 times hire-purchase credit. It compounds the inefficiencies and inequities of the range of unique tax exemptions to home owners who can effectively borrow to buy durables with tax relief.

Even more serious is the paper

restriction on the political side as opposed to the industrial side, may we assume that her Majesty's Secretary of State for Employment is less concerned with stopping strikes than with bobbing his main political opponents?

Yours sincerely,

MARTIN UPHAM,
The Iron and Steel Trades
Confederation,
Swinton House, 324 Gray's Inn
Road, WC1.

potentially some £2bn in 1982, perhaps 10 times hire-purchase credit. It compounds the inefficiencies and inequities of the range of unique tax exemptions to home owners who can effectively borrow to buy durables with tax relief.

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restriction on the political side as opposed to the industrial side, may we assume that her Majesty's Secretary of State for Employment is less concerned with stopping strikes than with bobbing his main political opponents?

Yours sincerely,

ANTONY HEWISH,
Mullard Radio Astronomy
Observatory,
Cavendish Laboratory,
Madingley Road,
Cambridge,
July 25.

Advantages of the Hawaii telescope

From Professor A. Hewish, FRS

Sir, Dr Gebbie is right to stress the conspicuous successes of British astronomers during the past two decades, but he has made some highly misleading statements (July 21) about the millimetre wavelength telescope now under construction on Mauna Kea. Most of us concerned with this project, including our enthusiastic partners in the Netherlands, believe that it will provide unique opportunities for continued successes in the future.

This instrument was conceived in 1975 (not in the late sixties) and the price has not risen in real terms although its design has been refined to exploit the best available technology. The excellent progress of the project may be one reason why the Americans dropped their plans for a less advanced telescope on Hawaii.

Dr Gebbie has little support in doubting the superb atmospheric clarity of the Mauna Kea site. Several thousand hours of site measurements, and the experience of the international community of astronomers using telescopes already present on the mountain, have confirmed that it is second to none in the wavebands concerned. The excess absorption claimed by Dr Gebbie has not been found by others and this topic has been fully discussed in scientific journals (e.g. *Nature*, April 21 1983).

It is ridiculous to suggest that the new telescope may soon be "old hat". No other instrument, either planned or in existence, can match its performance. The concept of placing a similar reflector in space raises daunting technical problems and its cost would be prodigious. The good health of British astronomy, a science in which the taxpayer continues to show great interest, is best served by a balanced programme containing both major and minor projects.

Yours etc,

ANTONY HEWISH,
Mullard Radio Astronomy
Observatory,
Cavendish Laboratory,
Madingley Road,
Cambridge,
July 25.

Nameless JPs

From the Editor of the South Wales Argus

Sir, It is sad when anyone likens sugar to salt, but doubly so when this is done by a justice's clerk in a judicial discussion.

Mr John Hill (July 19) asks whether the Editors' Guild, who think that magistrates must take the risk of public exposure, consider that the same principle should be applied to the identity of jurors. The guild can well speak for itself, but it must be pointed out that there is no earthly reason why jurors, who are usually involuntary and frequently antagonistic public servants, should be likened to magistrates who, judging by the list of eager applicants, see magistracy either as an honour in itself or as a means to an honour.

Certainly the magistrate chooses to be an actor in the spotlight, whereas the juror is better compared with an innocent passer-by who is dragged kicking and screaming to give an impromptu adjudication from one of the side boxes.

The dedicated actor will accept the occasional well-aimed tomato as a concomitant of all the rest. I courageously refrain from mentioning the kitchen and the heat.

Yours truly,

KEN GRIFFIN, Editor,
South Wales Argus,
Cardiff Road,
Maesglas,
Newport, Gwent.

Post Office profits

From Professor Sir Raymond Firth

Sir, It is reported in *The Times</*

Korea - the divided peninsula

Thirty years ago today the United Nations, China and North Korea signed an armistice agreement at Panmunjom which ended the Korean war. Three years of fighting had left the peninsula devastated and divided into two ideologically opposed camps. No peace treaty followed the ceasefire and in 1983 both sides remain locked in classic Cold War postures.

Nothing could illustrate better the terrible upheaval of war than a television programme that has been drawing huge audiences in South Korea. Put out by KBS, the state broadcasting system, it has reunited thousands of people with relatives from whom they were separated during the Korean war, neither party having known for more than 30 years whether the other was alive or dead.

This is how the programme works. A man looking for, say, a lost sister, goes to the KBS studio and, along with rows of people in a similar predicament, appears on television carrying a sheet of paper on which are written his and his sister's names and the place where they were separated. The sister, watching the programme at home, recognizes her brother and, after the identification has been confirmed, speaks to him over the phone. Finally, in front of millions of viewers all over the country, the two are reunited in the studio. Shaken with sobs, they hug each other again and again - standing up, sitting, kneeling, even rolling on the floor - as if to make sure that what is happening is real.

These extraordinary outbursts of joy are a measure of the suffering such people have endured. There are many other Koreans who are less fortunate, however. At the end of the war, members of their families found themselves on opposite sides of the demilitarized zone which cuts the peninsula in two.

The division of Korea had been set in motion shortly after the end of the Second World War when the United States and the Soviet Union moved in to fill the vacuum left by the surrender of Japan, the colonial power since 1910. It was sealed in its present form by the armistice signed at Panmunjom 30 years ago today.

To appreciate the extent of this rupture, imagine England bisected at the Trent, with no form of communication across that dividing line and thus no means of knowing whether relatives and friends on the other side are alive or dead. In Korea, a similar operation was carried out on a country which had been unified, almost without a break, for 1,300 years.

No peace treaty followed the 1953 armistice, so that technically the two sides are still at war. To the south of the 38th parallel are the 600,000-strong

forces of South Korea, backed by nearly 40,000 American soldiers and airmen; to the north, an estimated 780,000 North Korean troops. The cost of maintaining such large numbers of people under arms is heavy. The South spends about 6 per cent of its gross national product on defence, the North, which has a much smaller economy, possibly four times that level.

Thirty years after the ceasefire, there is little sign of any relaxation of tension on the peninsula. The South complains of continued attempts at armed infiltration by the North; the North accuses the South of being a stooge of American imperialism. The media on both sides of the 38th parallel conduct a relentless propaganda war against their opponents.

Divide that country by teatime!

Just before the surrender of Japan several one-star generals hurried into an office in the Pentagon with the statement: "We've got to divide Korea..." A colonel with experience in the Far East protested to his superiors: "You can't do that, Korea is a social and economic unit. There is no place to divide it." The generals insisted: "We have got to divide Korea and it has to be done by four o'clock this afternoon."

The Riddle of MacArthur by John Gunther

In military terms, the Americans estimate that North Korea has the edge over the South. The United States contribution to making up this difference is not so much in number of men as in firepower, electronic warfare capability and intelligence gathering. Even more important, the presence of American troops astride the most obvious invasion route from the north is a signal to Pyongyang that it cannot take on the South in isolation.

In diplomatic and, above all, in economic terms, the balance has swung decidedly in favour of South Korea. Per capita gap in the South rose from \$87 in 1962 to nearly \$1,700 (\$1,120) last year, about 70 per cent higher than that of the North. Export volume is approximately 16 times as great.

Pulling families apart

"They say all roads lead to home, but no road leads to my home. Where I left my wife, my parents..."

The words of the Korean poet Pak Mok-wol go straight to the heart of more than five million people living in South Korea today. Labelled "dispersed family members", they all have relatives somewhere in North Korea, but for more than three decades there has been no free travel between the two halves of the Korean peninsula, no mail, no personal communication; few know where their relatives are or even whether they are still alive.

Although, throughout its history, the peninsula has been buffeted by hostile incursions from neighbouring China, Mongolia and Japan, the people of this "Hemispherical Kingdom" remained unusually homogeneous, clinging fiercely to their national identity and repelling strangers. It was a particularly bitter irony, then, that after the Second World War, Korea was liberated from its most recent invaders, the Japanese, only to be torn in two by the differing ideologies of the world powers.

Between the outbreak of war in 1950 and the armistice in 1953 the fighting raged up and down the peninsula, and at one time the North Korean forces held all but the southern tip around the port of Pusan. During that period, according to the South Korean authorities, an estimated 85,000 South Koreans, most of them leading figures in various fields, were kidnapped and about 540,000 youths were recruited into the North Korean army and forcibly taken to North Korea. Most were never heard of again.

The majority of the dispersed family members, however, are northerners who fled from the communist regime. Three and a half million refugees came south before the war began, nearly one million escaped across the border within the short period of December 1950 and early January 1951. They came by boat, train, truck or on foot, bringing only those possessions they could carry, and leaving lands, houses, friends and relatives. Few thought their exile would be more than temporary. In many cases husbands went ahead to prepare for wives, children and aged parents to follow. Too many left it too late and families found themselves stranded.

Many of the refugees were Christians. "Pyongyang was a

kind of cradle for Protestantism in Korea," explained Yoo Chang-sun, former Prime Minister and now president of South Korea's National Red Cross (ROKRC). Mr Yoo, himself a refugee from the north, recalled how he and his wife, carrying their small child, had walked many miles to cross the border, keeping to back roads and alleys "to escape the watching eyes of the communist police".

Richard Kim, a novelist who now lives in Seoul, vividly remembers the fairly typical experience of his own family. His father escaped first to the south by driving through a checkpoint. Next he arranged for Richard, then aged 15, to be smuggled out by freight train, but unexpected delays meant he spent nearly three days, instead of five hours, hidden between bags of cement, without food or

shot because of his bourgeois intellectual background. My maternal grandfather, a Presbyterian minister who refused to leave his church, was also shot the day before war broke out."

In spite of immense initial difficulties, most of the former refugees are now well integrated into South Korean society. Many have become successful businessmen, or hold eminent positions in government or other circles. But their chances of returning home or being reunited with their families, as remote today as they were during the war.

Hopes were first raised in 1957 when North Korea handed a list of "displaced civilians" to the ROKRC, but no further information followed. Then in 1971 the North Korean Red Cross (NKRC) accepted a South proposal to discuss ways to ease the suffering of the dispersed

families. Preliminary and "full-dress" talks were held over the next few years, but then ran into a stalemate. ROKRC suggested various projects such as establishing a tracing service between the two Red Cross offices, arranging visits between aged parents and their children and the setting up of a reunion centre and postal exchange at the truce border village of Panmunjom. The North, however, insisted on the repeal of anti-communist laws and dissolution of anti-communist organizations in the South, and

drank. In desperation he got off the train, was caught, knocked unconscious and taken to a police station.

Luckily one of the policemen recognized him and contacted his uncle, who was a communist. The uncle helped him, and later his mother and younger brother, to escape and his two sisters and paternal grandparents eventually managed to join them in the south. "It took 2½ years for all the family to get out," said Mr Kim. "I think my poor communist uncle helped everyone. I heard he was later

An American tank fords a fast-flowing river in central Korea in 1952. The three-year war sealed the division of the peninsula so that today more than five million people in South Korea are separated from their relatives in the North. families. Preliminary and "full-dress" talks were held over the next few years, but then ran into a stalemate. ROKRC suggested various projects such as establishing a tracing service between the two Red Cross offices, arranging visits between aged parents and their children and the setting up of a reunion centre and postal exchange at the truce border village of Panmunjom. The North, however, insisted on the repeal of anti-communist laws and dissolution of anti-communist organizations in the South, and



international conference and had informal discussions with the government. The second was last March when two Soviet officials attended an agricultural conference. Commenting on these visits, Professor Ahn Byung-joon of Yonsei University in Seoul said: "The Russians intended to express their displeasure with North Korea for playing the China card. They wanted to show that they can play the South Korea card against the North."

In January the United States, Japan and South Korea unsuccessfully tried to interest China in the idea of Peking's recognizing Seoul in exchange for Japanese recognition of Pyongyang. This was a scaled-down version of the "cross recogni-

nition" formula devised by Henry Kissinger some years ago, whereby America and Japan would be traded for Chinese recognition of North Korea. With that line of approach exhausted, South Korea and its allies have now adopted a policy of trying to induce Pyongyang to negotiate directly with Seoul.

The last bilateral talks took place in 1972 and 1973, between the Red Cross societies of each side, and culminated in a joint communiqué which expressed

the wish to achieve reunification through peaceful means. Since he came to power in the South three years ago, President Chun Doo-hwan has made several proposals to resume contact but these have been turned down by Pyongyang.

Even if negotiations were to take place, it seems doubtful whether either side would be confident enough to make significant concessions. In the North the question of handing over power to Kim Il-sung's son, Kim Jong-il, appears not to have been finally settled and,

until it is, Pyongyang is unlikely to modify its policy towards the South. In the worst event, the country could be split between pro-and anti-Kim Jr factions, one backed by the Soviet Union, the other by China.

There is a succession problem in the South as well. President Chun has said he will step down in 1988 but rumours abound that in the next year or so he will revise the constitution to allow direct election of the president, instead of through an electoral college, and put himself forward as a candidate.

Together again at last. Thirty-three years after they were separated during the Korean war, Kwak Tam-shil, 57, of Seoul and her brother Kwak Man-yong, 49, of Taejon are reunited through a television campaign to trace missing relatives.

He would hope thereby both to prolong his tenure of office and to provide greater legitimacy for an unpopular regime whose origins lie in an army patch created after the assassination of President Park Chung-hee in 1979.

Although there is a genuine desire for reunification throughout the Korean peninsula, any rapprochement carries an element of risk for those in power on both sides of the 38th parallel, in that both depend partly for their support on the state of tension that exists between them.

For Kim Il-sung to have to accept that he cannot remake the peninsula on his own terms would be to knock away one of the main planks of his policy.

In the South, the ending of what the Government calls "a state of war" with the North would remove the justification for controls which are even tighter than those under President Park. The most prominent opponents of President Chun are still banned from political activity, the media are muzzled to a ludicrous degree, the labour unions have been emasculated, and the hundreds of university teachers, lawyers, journalists and students who are prevented from practising their professions or continuing their studies remain one of Czechoslovakia after the Soviet invasion of 1968.

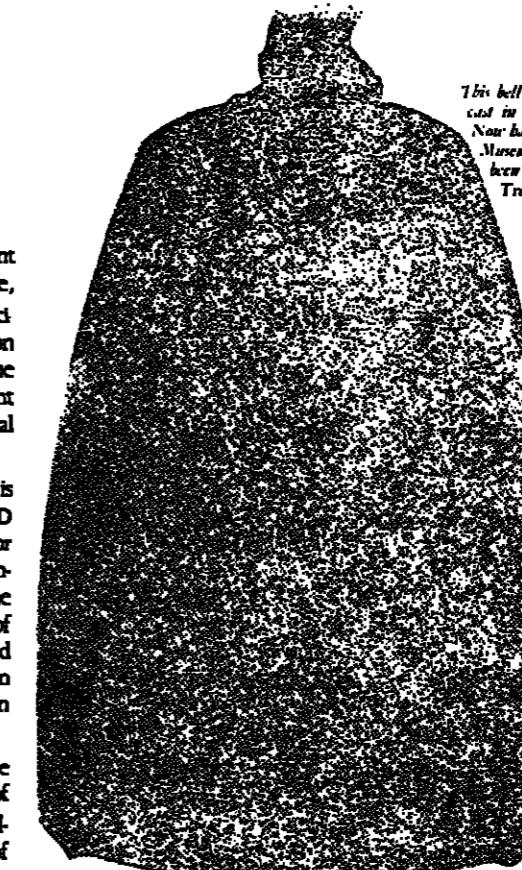
The division of the Korean peninsula, following so fast on liberation from Japanese rule in 1945, is one of the greatest tragedies of this century. Reuniting the two halves entails not only reconciling great power rivalries but also accepting what could be uncomfortable changes for the leaders in both Pyongyang and Seoul. The task is daunting but surely not beyond a people which was first unified in the seventh century AD and has since survived as an entity despite the incursions of its two great power neighbours, China and Japan.

Simon

Scott Plummer

The ancient Korean artisan's perseverance for perfection

A tradition handed down to today.



This bell, known as King Seongdeok, was cast in 771 AD and hangs at Kyongju National Museum. Its eleven-fold masterpiece has been given the name of Emile. (National Treasure No. 29)

The mentality of the ancient Korean artisan - patience, determination, scientific precision, ingenuity, and dedication to a cause greater than the self - is nowhere more evident than in centuries of metal craftsmanship.

One outstanding example is the Emile Bell, cast in 771 AD and now world-renowned for its exquisite sound and stunning relief work. It was the culmination of centuries of ingenious experimentation and craftsmanship that defied even the imagination of its own glorious Great Shilla Dynasty.

The Emile Bell was the product of some thirty years of painstaking patience to develop the perfect combination of alloys for color as well as for sound, and carbon dioxide testing reveals a perfectly uniform, bubble-free composition that could only come from highly advanced, scientific, and precision melting, molding and casting processes.

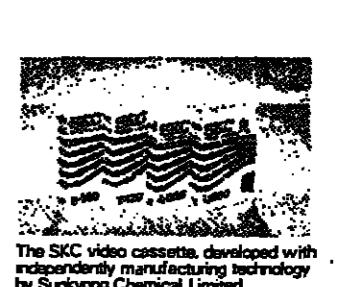
The mentality of the ancient Korean artisan - patience, determination, scientific precision, ingenuity, and dedication to a cause greater than the self - is nowhere more evident than in centuries of metal craftsmanship.

One result is that Sunkyoung, using its own techniques and ingenuity, has developed its

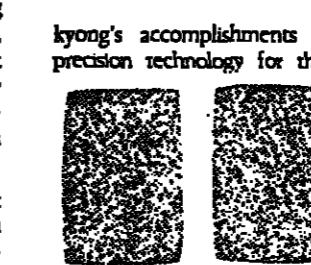
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Sunkyoung's not stopping there though. Bronco Mirror National Treasure No. 141

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Mold from Bronze Age (500-300 BC)

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The Sunkyoung Group is playing an important part in Korean business today in such fields as general trading, fibres, chemicals, construction and oil refining.

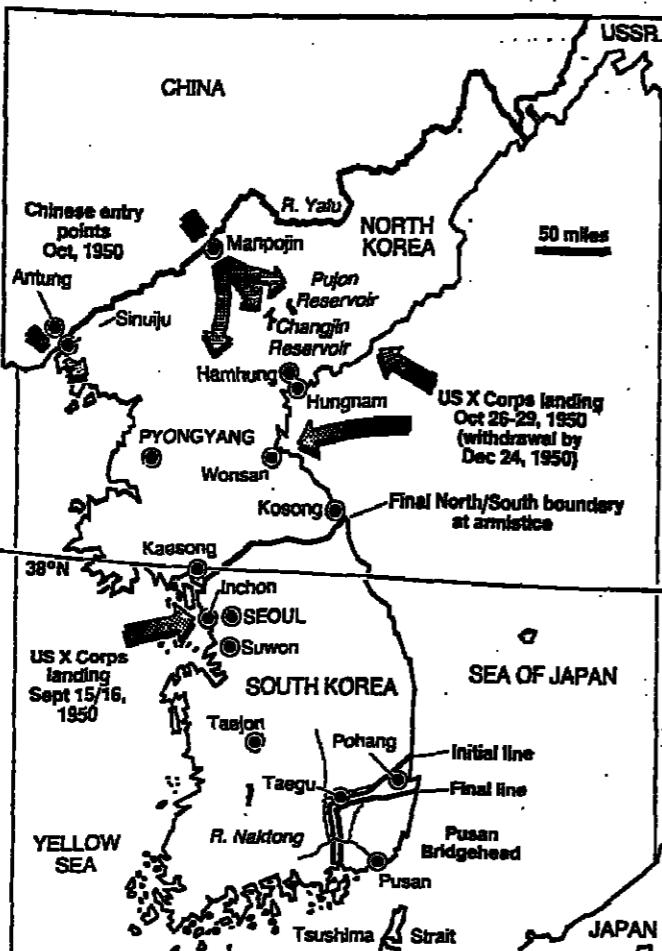
The painful lessons of a limited war

As a surprise stroke, the North Korean's opening offensive against the South on Sunday, June 25, 1950, was a triumph for Stalin. Although various intelligence agencies later sought to claim that they had predicted the event, the Soviet Union's secret reinforcement of weapons, aircraft, vehicles, ammunition and equipment to North Korea, and the later deployment of North Korean army to battle stations, was known only to the three nations party to it. The third nation was, of course, China, which had been under communist rule since October, 1949. Peking had concluded a treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual assistance with the Soviet Union in February, 1950, and the railway system of north-east China was essential to the passage of ordnance from Russia to North Korea.

It is likely that Stalin acceded to the proposal by Kim Il-sung, the North Korean leader, to take the South by force because Russian adventurism in Europe outside its zones of military occupation had everywhere been rebuffed in Berlin, in Austria, in Greece - even in Yugoslavia.

Korea was peculiarly suited to consolidation within the Soviet block. The prospect for success seemed high, the risk for Russia negligible. In 1945, this former Japanese possession had been divided into zones of occupation at the 38th parallel of latitude as a temporary expedient; the Russians to the north of the line, the United States to the south. These powers had agreed to negotiate unification. Having created circumstances for Kim Il-sung to acquire absolute political and military power in the north, Stalin was ready to withdraw his occupation force, anticipating that this would persuade the United States to do the same.

Thereafter, a strong, though minority, Communist party in the South would combine with the organized military strength in the North to take over power in a unified Korea. To this end, all attempts by the United States to bring about economic, and later, with the missions sent by the United Nations, political union of the country by open process were thwarted. Reluctantly, but by majority vote, the United Nations agreed to separate elections in the South. While these were rough in almost every sense of the term, they were an expression of popular opinion. The new state in the South, the Republic of Korea (ROK), was formally recognized by 46 to eight



The map shows how the fighting swung from one end of the country to the other in the first six months of the war. Right: a wounded Argyll and Sutherland Highlander is helped to an ambulance during an Allied advance. British casualties during the war were 686 dead, 2,498 wounded and 62 missing.

by Anthony Farrar-Hockley

General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley, who retired from the Army this year after almost 44 years service, took part in the Korean war as adjutant of the 1st Bn, The Gloucestershire Regiment. He is the official historian for the United Kingdom involvement in and contribution to the war, and is now involved in writing the single volume work which is to be published by HMSO.

The South Korean forces withdrew in disorder as the North army thrust southward through Seoul and Suwon to Taegu, which was also quickly captured. The Security Council decision to intervene was perhaps made easier because the Russian representative had absented himself earlier. Land and air forces began to cross from the United States occupation forces in Japan to help the ROKs, as the South Korean forces were called. The leading American land element was too



A wounded Argyll and Sutherland Highlander is helped to an ambulance during an Allied advance. British casualties during the war were 686 dead, 2,498 wounded and 62 missing.

small, however, and unready for battle. Even though there was a steady increase in numbers to the point that three US divisions had joined the ROK army by August 4, they were unable to hold the bridgehead 120 by 75 miles to cover the essential port of Pusan.

Already, 16 nations had agreed to send troops contingents. The United Kingdom promised a strong brigade group for October but, urged by Washington to send something sooner in view of the pressure, despatched a light force of two battalions from Hongkong and almost immediately they were drawn into the fighting along the protective line of the Nakdong River. Several times it seemed that the bridgehead, reduced to 75 by 65 miles, would be broken open by the North Koreans, who had the advantage of the initiative as well as bravery and skill. General MacArthur, the United Nations supreme commander, was obliged to send part of his reserve, the US 1st Marine Division, to reinforce this line.

In the North, 3,000 Russians were left to train the armed forces there which, by June 1950, had developed to seven strong divisions, an armoured brigade, three reserve divisions, an air force of 10 reconnaissance aircraft, 40 fighters and 70 bombers, and a coastal navy.

Dispersed and surprised by the opening attack on June 25,

In Peking, the Chinese grew alarmed. A composite contingency force had been in training in north-east China since July, probably to provide a final impetus, if necessary, for a quick victory. Now the UN forces were approaching the Chinese border. Chou En-lai gave various warnings to the West, the most explicit to the Indian ambassador in Peking, that China would intervene if North Korea was entered. This was dismissed by participant governments as rhetoric.

On October 13 the Chinese Fourth Field Army, identifying its members as "volunteers", began crossing into Korea to maintain a concerted offensive by four - shortly six - armies against the UN divisions in the North from the 25th onwards. Surprised, General Walker attempted a counter-offensive which failed. He began a long retreat which took his soldiers south of Seoul at the end of the year.

The air forces, which had promised to cut the Yalu crossings, were unable to do so - partly inhibited by political constraints concerning Chinese territory but more importantly because they lacked the weapons. Along the coast, the British Commonwealth navies held the western waters, those of the United States the eastern.

Then fortunes changed. The Chinese supply arrangements were poor and made worse by attacks from the air. The severe winter forced them to pull back. General Walker, killed in a motor accident, was replaced by Lt-Gen Matthew B. Ridgway.

The new army commander brought a fresh concept. He would "roll with the punches" and counter-attack when the Chinese extended themselves.

General Ridgway counter-attacked the weakened Chinese advancing to the area of the 38th parallel where, for political reasons, his army halted. In late April, 1951, the Chinese launched a new offensive. Though lacking forward air cover and artillery, their numerous infantry, hardy, brave and skilled in fighting off the line of march, once more broke the UN line.

General Ridgway had just been sent to replace General

MacArthur in Tokyo. The new army commander, Lt-Gen James Van Fleet III, sought to hold first and there were high UN losses at several points of contact. But the UN force, including the ROKs, was now more experienced, their air support was superb. Seoul remained unoccupied. Judging his moment well, Van Fleet counter-attacked an enemy depicted in men and supplies. By June the Eighth Army was just short of Kaesong in the east, 50 miles north of the parallel.

There the line was to remain, minor movements apart. In June, 1951, the Russian delegate to the Security Council, once more seated, proposed armistice talks. Although these dragged on for over two years, during which several local battles raged and the terms of repatriation of prisoners-of-war was apparently the impediment to agreement, the armistice became effective on July 27, 1953.

Two political events influenced it: Stalin's death in March, 1953, and President Eisenhower's covert warning that if an honourable armistice was denied, the United States would take wider action to end the war. This was clearly not a bluff. The American people were becoming restive for a decision.

Syngman Rhee threatened the agreements by releasing prematurely North Koreans opposed to repatriation, but China and Russia were not inclined to continue the war. It had not achieved Stalin's aim. It had been costly to Russia in resources and to China in men as well as money. The Chinese army had been shaken by its reverses.

No government by force

The United Nations had won its point that no people should have a government imposed upon them by force of arms, but it had been a painful experience, one which many members recalled when the US became involved later in Indo-China.

One consequence of the war was the acceleration of West Germany to independence with its own defence force and an important place as the Federal Republic in the Atlantic Alliance.

The Western allies should have learnt that wars break out at inconvenient times in unlikely places. They have failed to provide for this since and have had to meet unnecessary bills. The land forces in Korea relearn old lessons, particularly of the infantry; it was an infantryman's war. The air forces continued to make strategic promises they could not keep but did marvellously well tactically. The military helicopter showed in an operational debut its remarkable value. The navies, unchallenged by submarines or surface fleet, performed with ready skill, particularly in the air and in retrieving amphibious capabilities. Western governments had declared they would never need again. The Western prisoners-of-war had a harsh experience as captives of communist powers: the North Koreans were savage captors, the Chinese ruthless when it suited their objectives.

This sideshow from 1950-52 is now called a limited war. It was certainly limited geographically and to the conventional weapons of the day. Its settlement has also been limited: no peace treaty has developed from the armistice and North and South commissions continue to engage in sterile encounters.

North Korea: life on the other side

The Russian claim is clearly at odds with North Korea's insistence that it has pulled itself up economically by its own bootstraps. South Korean academic studies have put a total figure of \$2,800m (measured in as-spent dollars) as the amount of aid received from all communist sources in the period from 1945 to 1978, with the bulk of this for war reconstruction before 1960. The figure includes about \$2,000m of military assistance, but not pay-back deals, which alone are believed to involve a debt of around \$1,000m to the Russians.

Pyongyang's continuing dependence for development on the USSR has led to strong trade ties. In recent years total two-way yearly trade of about \$800m-\$900m has accounted for almost one third of all North Korean trade. China, with total trade believed to be about \$500m a year, ranks second as a trading partner and also as a supplier of economic assistance.

Most of China's aid has been in the area of energy supply and development. North Korea's largest oil refinery, the 2.5m tonnes a year capacity Ponghwa plant in the far north-west of the country, only 20km from the Chinese border, has been the principal Chinese aid project to date. Completed in 1980 after five years of construction, the plant is designed to handle Chinese crude which reaches North Korea by pipeline. In a break from its customary silence on foreign aid, Pyongyang acknowledged in its domestic media the Chinese role in the Ponghwa project.

Joint ventures with Chinese

Other Chinese projects consist predominantly of hydroelectric generating facilities on the Yalu river, which forms the North Korea-China border. These are in the form of joint ventures, with China receiving the power generated by the stations in return for use of its border water and for its supply of the technologically advanced generating plant. Construction is well advanced on the third dam and power station built under this arrangement.

North Korea's only attempt to move beyond its communist allies and acquire modern technology from Western countries during the early 1970s has proved to be both an economic misjudgement and a lingering political embarrassment for Pyongyang.

After a sharp reduction in communist aid in the late 1960s, accompanied by a slackening in economic growth, North Korea turned to Western European and Japanese suppliers for a range of modern petrochemical, machine-tool, cement and paper-making plant. The equipment was to be paid for on short-to medium-term credits.

In its buying spree, Pyongyang ran up bills totalling \$1,500m-\$2,000m. The aim of the economic planners was to meet this debt by way of a boost in hard-currency earnings with exports produced by these and other factories. Unfortunately, they failed to anticipate the severe international trade downturn which followed the first Opec oil price rise.

Moreover, the rigidly bureaucratic economic management system seemed unable to accommodate the rapid inflow of unfamiliar technology.

Payments on the debts slowed in 1973, and by 1975, when the Soviet Union refused to lend Pyongyang hard currency to meet its Western commitments (perhaps because it was already the largest creditor), North Korea defaulted on its debt. Since then, negotiations with lenders have rescheduled repayment of the debt several times. The most recent schedule, which called for repayment of capital by 1985, has again fallen to pieces. Some Japanese creditors, who are owed about \$360m, have agreed to yet another timetable which calls for full repayment by 1989.

Ron Richardson

東亞日報



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London: Vogue House, 2nd Fl, 1 Hanover Sq, London W1R 9rd, United Kingdom Tel: (01) 408-1591 Telex: 268908 KNTCLD 6

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This year marks the centenary of diplomatic relations between Britain and Korea, an event which is being celebrated on both sides with a series of exhibitions, symposia and theatrical and musical performances. Dr Tony Michell, Director of the Korean Study Project at the University of Hull, looks back at this relationship.

A missionary among the smugglers

Although the Anglo-Korean treaty was signed in Seoul on November 26, 1883, British interest in Korea dates back to the seventeenth century. On establishing themselves in Japan, officials of the East India Company were attracted to the possibilities of trade with Korea, but were thwarted by the Daimyo of Tsushima's control of Japanese-Korean trade. By the 1640s the English had been squeezed out of Japan by the Tokugawas. Nevertheless, Britons continued to sail off Korea. One Scot, Alexander Bosquet, a gunner on the Dutch ship Sparrow Hawk, was shipwrecked on Cheju Island in 1653 and lived in Korea for 16 years until released in 1669.

The rise of English maritime strength brought British chartmakers to Korea as early as 1797, when William Broughton surveyed the east coast. In 1845 the Komodo islands off the south coast were surveyed and named Port Hamilton. After the opening of Japan in 1858, it became a regular port of call for the Far Eastern fleet on its annual voyage from Hongkong.

British merchants in China became involved in smuggling goods into Korea, and on one such voyage in 1868 the Welsh missionary, Rev Jermain Thomas, was killed when the ship ran aground near Pyongyang and was burnt, according to North Korean accounts, by the grandfather of Kim Il-sung. Thomas had previously spent three months in Korea in 1865.

To the statements of the Great Powers, Russia, Great Britain, Germany and France, Korea became an unfortunate pawn in a global strategy. British interests were concerned with the containment of Russian expansion in the Far East and as early as 1878 a plan had been formulated to seize Port Hamilton as a British naval base. By the 1880s Korea was becoming

increasingly entangled in Chinese-Japanese rivalries which were to affect the outcome of the treaty and subsequent Anglo-Korean relations.

In 1876 a treaty with Japan was forced on Korea in the same way Western powers had forced the opening of Japan 20 years earlier. In 1882 the US became the first Western country to conclude a treaty with Korea. A few days after Admiral George Willes signed a treaty based on the American one, but with due regard for British naval interests. This treaty was felt to be inadequate, especially by Sir Harry Parkes in Tokyo, because it gave grounds for the Japanese and Chinese to renegotiate "the unequal treaties". The treaty was therefore renegotiated and formalized in 1883. Parkes (now Minister at Peking) journeyed to Seoul to sign. The treaty was with all the countries of the British Empire, not merely the United Kingdom, and therefore marked the beginning of diplomatic relations with nearly a fifth of the world.

Entangled in controversy

The delay in negotiations was unfortunate for Korea. Whereas the US had recognized Korea as an independent country, the British became entangled in a controversy about Korea's dependency on China. This relationship, enshrined in annual tributes from Korea to China, was only politically important when China was strong enough to enforce her claims, which were greatly extended in the 1880s compared with the 1870s. As a consequence, the British mission to Korea was subordinate to

negotiations Britain offered to lease the island, making it a Hongkong of the north-east Pacific. The illegal occupation ended in 1887, leaving only a British cemetery (still tended today).

Korea became the scene of the Sino-Japanese war of 1894-5, fought almost exclusively in Korea and Korean coastal waters. The resounding Japanese victory brought a change in

negotiations Britain offered to observers and left accounts of the occupation of Korea by the Japanese, including the construction of Yongean, the Japanese military garrison for Seoul until 1945 (now the US forces' headquarters). The success of the Japanese army and navy lessened the need for the British to use the Japanese against Russia, and in some quarters there was concern about Japanese expansion.

Nevertheless the treaties were renewed, despite the growth of commercial interest in Korea.

Anglican missionaries, well established in Korea from 1889, operating hospitals as well as missions, also opposed Japanese encroachment. Much more vocal was Ernest Bethell, who had come to Korea to cover the Russo-Japanese war and founded the *Daehan Maeil Shinbo* (Korean Daily News), dedicated to opposing Japan.

Under the treaty of 1883, which provided extra-territoriality for British citizens, the only way the Japanese could prosecute Bethell was in the British consular court. In 1907, with a missionary as defence witness, Bethell was given a fine and suspended sentence. In 1908 he was imprisoned in Shanghai by the same court, but returned declaring: "My fight for Korea is heaven-ordained. I will work regardless of my

personal safety." Bethell died in 1909 and his secretary, Matham, sold the paper.

When Japan established a protectorate over Korea in 1906, the diplomatic representation in London ceased and the British embassy in Seoul became a consulate general, a status it retained until 1941. However, when Korea was annexed in 1910, commercial interests were strong enough to cause the British government to issue a protest at any attempt to limit the conditions under which British nationals conducted their business in Korea.

Rapid increase in trade

A small British community remained in Seoul, chiefly missionaries and businessmen. Successive consuls-general sent back reports on the Korean desire for independence and increasing ability of Koreans to run their own affairs. Much British trade was conducted from Tokyo and one employee of Shell, Mr Gompertz, was so fascinated by Korean art that he later collected one of the largest private collections of Korean ceramics, much of it now

donated to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

Two British firms operated shipping, insurance and import agencies through much of the colonial period, and more British owned ships cleared from Korean ports in the 1930s than those of any other nation but Japan. Trade with Britain increased rapidly in the 1930s as industrialization began in Korea. The Singer Sewing Machine company of Glasgow supplied 112,725 domestic sewing machines and 1,560 industrial machines between 1930 and 1937. In 1937 all foreign owned enterprises were forced to sell their holdings, and in 1940 the Anglicans withdrew all British missionaries in the face of the anti-foreign campaign orchestrated by the Japanese.

The principle of Korean independence was agreed at the Cairo conference, but the British accepted that north-east Asia would be primarily in the American sphere of influence. The British took no part in the occupation of South Korea and were belatedly informed of US-Russian talks on trusteeship. British diplomats reoccupying the buildings built in 1890 could only observe the early independence of Korea. The main British aim was to accelerate the reopening of Korea to foreign trade, which the Americans showed no interest in doing.

As late as 1949 the Foreign Office was not optimistic about the chances of survival of the new republic of South Korea.

When the expected storm broke on June 25, 1950, with the invasion by North Korea, Britain and the Commonwealth responded immediately to the UN resolution of June 27.

Part of the Far Eastern fleet was cruising in Japanese waters and was the first help to arrive.

On July 2, HMS Jamaica and support ship were attacked by North Korean MTBs, the first naval action of the war, and on July 8 the Jamaica was hit by a shore battery, causing the first British casualties. Five battalions of British troops served alongside Canadian, Australian and New Zealand forces with Indian medical support, cooperating in holding the direct road to Seoul. The most famous incident was in 1951 when the Gloucesters were left to try to delay the Chinese to buy time for evacuation of the rest of the UN army. In all, perhaps 30,000 British National Servicemen served in Korea during the war.

The last battalion was withdrawn in 1957, but a platoon rotated from Hongkong continues to serve in the UN honour guard. The British government's support for South Korea appears unchanged since the 1950s in that North Korea is one of the very few governments not recognized by the UK although it appears to fulfil

all the normal Foreign Office criteria for recognition.

The first director of the UN Korean Relief Agency was an Englishman, responsible for coordinating the reconstruction of Korea with foreign aid. Many other senior UN officials in Korea through the years have been English, while British charities such as Save the Children began operations in Korea in the early 1950s and have continued up to the present.

In 1957 the British legation

was raised to an embassy with a resident ambassador at a time when many countries serviced Korea from their Tokyo embassies. In the same year Ewbank, a Hongkong oil company, established its office, followed by James Matheson and Sons. Many of Britain's trade relationships remain through such British firms based in Hongkong.

Since 1973 exports to Britain have consistently exceeded imports, despite British involvement in major projects such as power stations, shipyards and motor design. In terms of invisible earnings the balance is in favour of British firms, with banks and insurance companies well represented.

There is also a number of joint ventures in Korea. In turn, in recent years, many Korean companies have opened offices in London, especially construction firms, Anglo-Korean coop-

Centenary events in London

Modern Korean ceramics, Royal Festival Hall, July 22-Sept 4; Korean National Dance Company, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Aug 29-Sept 3; Treasures from Korea, British Museum, Feb 3-May 17, 1984.

eration in Middle East construction projects has been particularly fruitful.

Koreans have for long looked to Britain in the educational field. In the 1920s, Yun Po-sun, who would be President of Korea in 1960-61, studied at Edinburgh and Birmingham, the first of a steady stream of Korean students. Korean studies in the UK for many years represented by Dr W. E. Skillicorn at S.O.A.S. are now pursued at Sheffield, Hull and Durham. On July 8 Hull University became the first British university to sign an exchange agreement with the Korean university of Cheongju.

The cultural contacts with Britain are deep. English writers did much to inform the outside world of Korea in the 19th century, and English literature influenced Korean literature. Increasingly, Korean art, literature and recent achievements in rapid modernisation are being accorded proper recognition in Britain.



THE DONG-A ILBO
SEOUL, KOREA
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THE KOREAN-BRITISH CENTENARY 1883-1983

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- To provide cultural enlightenment.

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HONORARY CHAIRMAN
DR. KIM SANG MAN, KBE

In 1981 Dr. Kim was conferred the title of Knight of the British Empire by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Currently Honorary Chairman of the Dong-A Ilbo, he is chairman of the Press Foundation of Asia and a director of the International Press Institute. This year he is serving as Chairman of the Korean-British Centennial Committee.

The Dong-A Ilbo

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Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 708.9 up 8.0

FT Gilts: 79.69 up 0.20

FT All Shares: 447.43 up 0.62

(datastream estimate)

Bargains: 18.864

Datastream USM Leaders

Index: 96.84 down 0.19

New York: Dow Jones Average 1231.07 down 1.80

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones

Index: 900.48 up 13.55

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index

1097.96 up 16.19

Amsterdam: Index 148.7 + 2.2

Frankfurt: Commerzbank

Index 976.7 up 6.1

Sydney: AO Index 678.1 up 5.7

Brussels: General Index

130.91 up 1.1

Paris: CAC Index 129.9 up 1.1

Zurich: S K A General 290.3 up 0.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.5250 up 25p

Index 85.1 up 0.4

DM 3.9850 up 0.0150

Fr 11.3750 up 0.0525

Yen 357.25 up 0.75

Dollar

Index 126.6 down 0.1

DM 2.6125

NEW YORK

Sterling \$1.5255

INTERNATIONAL

ECU 0.572556

SDR 0.697506

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 9 1/2

Finance houses base rate 10 1/2

Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/2

3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar 10-10 1/4

3 month DM 5 1/2-5 1/4

3 month Fr 13 1/2-13 3/4

US rates

Bank prime rate 10.50

Fed funds 9 1/2

Treasury long bond 90 1/4-90 3/4

ECB Fixed Rate Sterling

Export Finance Scheme N

Average reference rate for

interest period June 2 to July 5,

1983 inclusive 9.878 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am

\$426.25, pm \$425.50

close \$425.75 (\$279) up \$1.00

New York \$24.50

Krugerrand* (per coin):

\$438-439.50 (\$287-288)

Sovereigns* (new) \$100-101

(\$65.50-66.75)

*excludes VAT.

TODAY

Interims: Barlow, Crone, Leda

Investment Trust, Midland Bank,

Updown Investment Company,

Finals: Consultants (Computer and

Financial), Greenwich Investment

Company, Gresham House, Priest

(Benjamin).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

De La Rue Company, Piccadilly

Hotel (11.30); Associated Head

Services, Grosvenor Hotel, 101

Buckingham Palace Road, SW1

(noon); Beecham Group, Hotel

Inter-Continental (Grand Ballroom)

1, Hamilton Place, Hyde Park

Corner, W1 (noon); Black Hill

Minerals, 5th Floor, 297 Murray

Street, Perth (10.30); British &

Commonwealth Shipping Co, The

Queen's Room, Baltic Exchange

Chambers, 14-20 St Mary Axe EC3

(noon); Bulmer & Lamb (Holdings)

Victoria Hotel, Bradford (3.30);

Caledonia Investments, Caxton

House, 2-4 St Mary Axe, EC3

(3.00); Continental & European

Trust, 120 Cheapside, EC2 (noon);

Dunhill Holdings, The Mount Suite,

Grosvenor House Hotel, Park

Lane, W1 (12.00); Mercury Secur

ties, 30 Grosvenor Street, EC2

(noon); Monks Investment Trust,

Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool

Street, EC2 (10.00); Pauls &

Whites, Pauls & Whites Sports &

Social Club, Stone Lodge Lane,

(pswich, Suffolk, SW1 (12.15);

Rediffusion, Institute of Directors

115 Pall Mall, SW1 (12.15); 500

Group, Grosvenor House, Park

Lane, W1 (11.30); Sisters Food

Products, Biscrow Lane, Newton

Heath, Manchester (11.00).

NOTEBOOK

Mercantile House, Whitechapel

full year profits up £14.4m to

£44.7m, has made a one-for-one

share issue. The issue should

return "heavy shares" and

restore "the balance between

assets and shareholders' funds.

But can the profit growth be

maintained?

Trafalgar's bid for P & O has raised

other takeover rumours from the

depressed shipping industry with

the bid for possible takeover being

salable on share assets and high

tax write-offs allowed for vessels.

Page 18

● Japanese steel exports this

year, led by shipments to China,

are expected to pass the 30

million ton level for the first

time in three years. The

recovery in volume should

mean industry production will

exceed last year's depressed

levels.

Commons statement likely to call for more talks

Stock Exchange rule book deal with Government hits last-minute snags

By Philip Robinson

The Stock Exchange out-of-court settlement with the Government over parts of its rule book appeared in trouble last night. Speculation was growing that the final detail of the Exchange's proposals designed to keep the rule book out of the Restrictive Practices Court has encountered eleven-hour problems.

The Government was due to make a statement to the House of Commons today signalling its intention to exempt the Stock Exchange rule book from the Restrictive Practices Act. This was to be in exchange for certain concessions from the Stock Exchange going some way to relaxing restrictions.

The statement will still be made, but it is likely to omit details of the full proposals, instead referring vaguely to the need for further negotiations.

The finer points of the settlement are being thrashed out by Sir Nicholas Goodison, the last-minute hitches come

against a background of fierce

Stock Exchange chairman, under delegated powers from the ruling council. His adversary, Sir Gordon Bonnici, the Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading, has not been involved in any of the settlement negotiations.

A statement of government intention is important if the court action brought by the OFT against the Stock Exchange is to be stopped.

Without it, the Stock Exchange would have no basis on which to seek an adjournment of the case before Mr Justice Lincoln tomorrow or Friday.

A key part of legal procedure

of the case is set to take place on October 3 when both sides are due in court.

The Government will not be back from recess until late October and a statement this week is necessary to delay the legal machinery.

The last-minute hitches come

against a background of fierce

opposition to the settlement from the Labour benches and Dr David Owen, the leader of the Social Democrats.

Mr John Fraser, Opposition spokesman on trade, has already written to Mr Alex Fletcher, the Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, seeking details of how

the Government told the Stock Exchange it was prepared to drop the Restrictive Practices case.

He said yesterday: "Until we know this, there is some justification for the impression that the Exchange is being helped out by its friends".

Goodison, left, and Bonnici: Government statements will stop action

against the Stock Exchange

Opposition will press for a full Commons debate. But observers said last night that this would not take place until the autumn, and by then the agreement is likely to be cut and dry.

It is now generally accepted at the Exchange that the full 46-man ruling council has given in over minimum commissions and given some ground on outside membership.

But it has stood firm on keeping the existing single capacity system under which a jobber will not be allowed to deal with the public and a broker may be allowed to do only that.

It is unlikely that even these concessions will occur at speed, with the Exchange almost certainly arguing for a phased introduction of the new rules.

Whatever concessions have been made it is admitted by the Exchange that the 150 points raised as a restrictive

practices by the OFT.

It is unlikely that even these

concessions will occur at speed, with the Exchange almost certainly arguing for a phased introduction of the new rules.

National Westminster Bank Group

Interim Statement (unaudited)

In announcing NatWest Group Interim Results for 1983, the Chairman, Lord Boardman said:—

"We are pleased to announce a 7½% increase in our interim profit over the first half of 1982 despite heavy provisions for Bad and Doubtful Debts."

Comment on Results

Profit Comparisons

On a historic cost basis Group profit of £230m before tax for the first half of 1983 was up £16m (+7½%) over 1982 first half and up £5m (+2%) over 1982 second half. On a current cost basis interim profit amounted to £167m compared with a re-stated figure of £145m for the 1982 first half.

Income

Average base rate for the half year fell to 10.39% (1982 first half 13.35%) but wider margins helped net interest income (up 9%). With strong growth in commission and foreign exchange income, total income increased by 19%.

Costs

Operating costs excluding the provision for bad and doubtful debts increased by 16% overall as compared with first half 1982; the rise over the second half was substantially less (4%). Staff costs rose by 3% on the second half.

Provisions

The increased charge to profits for the provision for bad and doubtful debts reflects our recent experience through difficult trading conditions. The cumulative provision of £53m, of which £20m is general provision, represents 1.4% of customers' and other

accounts. This compares with a figure of £508m (1.2%) at the end of 1982 of which £167m was general provision.

Divisional Contributions

The percentage contribution to profit before charging loan stock interest of each operating division was:—

	1983 1st half	1982 2nd half	1982 1st half	1982 2nd half
Domestic Banking	35	47	53	53
International Banking	50	39	34	34
Related Banking Services	15	14	13	13

The lower contribution from UK Domestic Banking reflects the adverse impact of provisions and a continued trend towards wholesale funding.

International Banking achieved a strong performance against difficult economic conditions at home and abroad. Improved profits from our North American business, all subsidiaries and higher foreign exchange earnings increased the divisional contribution to half the Group total profit before loan stock interest.

Related Banking Services again increased their contribution with higher profits overall.

Dividend

An interim dividend of 11.4p per share has been declared, an increase of 7½% over last year's interim dividend.

The following financial information contains abridged details from the full group accounts for the year ended 31 December 1982 on which the auditors gave an unqualified opinion. These accounts have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (Historical cost basis – unaudited)

	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Trading Surplus	217	208	200
The Bank and subsidiaries (Note 1)	13	17	14
Share of associated companies	230	225	214
Taxation (1982 restated) (Note 2)	57	19	18
Minority interests in, and preference dividends of, subsidiary companies	179	206	196
Preference dividend of the Bank	2	2	2
Group profit before extraordinary items	177	203	194
Extraordinary items	—	—	1
Group profit attributable to ordinary shareholders of the Bank	177	203	195
Ordinary dividend	27	44	25
Retained profit of the group transferred to reserves	150	159	170
Per Share			
Dividends	11.4p (interim) 74p	18.4p (final) 85p	10.8p (interim) 82p
Earnings (Note 3) (1982 restated)			

SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Historical cost basis – unaudited)

	30 June 1983 £m	31 December 1982 £m	30 June 1982 £m
shareholders' funds	2,704	2,553	2,393
Liabilities			
Loan capital	962	933	698
Current, deposit and other accounts	51,143	50,196	43,449
Other liabilities	745	805	624
Assets	55,554	54,487	47,164
Liabilities and short term assets			
Due from customers, less provision	11,800	11,784	9,985
Market placings over one month	30,146	27,734	24,495
Assets leased to customers	10,136	11,591	9,717
Other debtors	1,858	1,857	1,563
Customers' and other accounts	337	293	234
Premises and equipment	42,477	41,475	36,009
Other assets	1,100	1,063	1,019
55,554	54,487	47,164	

NOTES

1. Analysis of trading surplus	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Income:			
Interest income	2,807	3,057	2,975
Less: Interest payable (other than on loan capital)	2,037	2,298	2,271
Net interest income	770	789	704
Investment income	85	108	74
Commission and foreign exchange (Note 4)	255	229	184
Other income	33	31	29
Expenditure:			
Personnel costs	498	486	439
Premises and equipment	138	124	117
Bad and doubtful debts (Note 5)	135	151	78
Other expenditure	148	138	110
Interest on loan capital	49	53	47
Trading surplus	217	208	200

2. The charge for taxation assumes UK Corporation Tax at 52% (1982: 52%) and takes account of the Group's estimated deferred tax provision for the year as a whole. As a result of capital allowances for taxation in respect of assets leased to customers and fixed assets used in the business, for which full provision for deferred taxation has not been made, the charge for taxation for the current half-year is reduced by £24m (half-year to 31 December 1982: £29m, half-year to 30 June 1982: £28m).

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (Current cost basis – unaudited)

	Half-Year to 30 June 1983 £m	Half-Year to 31 December 1982 £m	Half-Year to 30 June 1982 £m
Trading surplus of the Bank and subsidiaries before deducting loan capital interest (1982 restated—Note (a))	266	266	258
Less: Current cost adjustments:			
— Monetary working Capital (Note (b))	53	47	93
— Additional depreciation (Note (c))	8	6	13
Share of current cost profits of associated companies	61	53	106
Current cost operating profit	11	17	11
Interest on loan capital	216	230	163
Current cost profit before taxation	49	54	49
Taxation (1982 restated)	20	15	31
Minority interests and preference dividends	(29)	(39)	(18)
Current cost profit before extraordinary items	187	191	145
Extraordinary items	51	19	19
Current cost profit attributable to ordinary shareholders of the Bank	136	172	126
Ordinary dividend	2	3	2
Retained current cost profit of the Group	134	169	124
Current cost earnings per share (1982 restated)	56p	71p	52p

(a) The 1982 figures have been restated, by reference to the movement of the UK Index of Retail Prices during the periods, to allow for the effect of inflation.

(b) The monetary working capital adjustment has been calculated by reference to changes in the UK Index of Retail Prices (or the overseas equivalent).

Copies of the Interim Statement will be available to shareholders on request from The Secretary, National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lombard, London EC2P 2BP.

National Westminster Bank Group

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Can Mercantile stay on top?

Mercantile House
Year to 30.4.83
Pre-tax profit £44.7m (£14.4m)
Stated earnings 73.7p (41p)
Turnover £280m (£23m)
Net final dividend 15p (10.5p)
Share price 835p Yield 8.4%

Mercantile House has long been poised for promotion into a higher division, and the quantum jump in profits announced yesterday would appear to propel the burgeoning financial service group into the premier league. But the haggard reservation must be that it is easier to buy profits than to sustain them.

As expected, the Oppenheim purchase, nearly timed to take full advantage of Wall Street's rapid advance, was the key factor. The brokerage house contributed £20.2m of total pre-tax profit after only eight and a half months in the group. Given that Mercantile paid £91m for its position in New York, this cannot be a bad rate of return. Combining the different firms' management and the continued strong activity on Wall Street must have extended the profit into the present year as well.

Another acquisition, Rouse Woodstock, for which a full year is included in these figures, also showed some promise. The profit contribution of commodity broking swung round from a £59.000 loss to £73.000. Mercantile is a very small player in this most dangerous of markets — although the company does not take positions on its own account — and the scope for expansion in commodity broking must be considerable.

But it would be unfair to suggest that all the improvement came from acquisitions. Money broking, the historic core of the group, raised pre-tax profits by £1m to £10.7m, showing how its share fell from two-thirds to about a quarter.

Against money broking, however, should be offset the ironic fiasco lost on the London International Financial Futures Exchange operations. The current year should produce an improvement here.

The results from fixed interest broking in the United States and fund management are equally important. After generating respectively a £3.83m profit and an £1.000 loss in 1982, profits were distinctly higher at £9.66m and £6.34m. In part, the change in fortunes reflects market conditions, but

Return on capital by top shipping companies

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	5 year average
UK Indust average	18.2	18.1	15.5	16.6	16.1	16.9
B & C	13.5	13.0	10.9	11.3	11.8	12.7
European Ferries	22.2	21.5	21.1	11.3	12.2	17.7
Ocean	6.8	7.8	11.8	10.6	5.1	8.4
P & O	8.4	9.0	10.7	10.5	10.0	9.3
Major group avg	12.2	12.8	13.			

JULY 27 1983

APPOINTMENTS

Directors named at GKN Kwikform

W. A. Tyznak: Mr A. Keith Gwynne Jones has been appointed to the board, GKN Kwikform Holdings. Mr J. F. Reeve has been appointed chairman and Mr R. H. Coveney, Mr S. H. Doughty, Mr R. J. B. Jessop and Mr A. F. Walker directors.

GKN Kwikform: Mr Jessop has been appointed chairman, Mr M. J. Ormiston, managing director, and Mr C. G. Ainsley, Mr A. Ingram, Mr D. G. Oldfield, Mr T. Palferman, Mr W. Papagea, Mr J. F. Reeve, Mr A. J. Smith and Mr D. Sykes have been appointed directors.

Korn/Ferry International: Mr Jean-Michel Beigbeder, former chairman of the board of Spencer Stuart Management Consultants, has become chairman and managing director of Korn/Ferry's new international executive committee to direct the company's worldwide expansion programme.

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Company: Mr Barry E. Nichols has been appointed the first managing partner responsible for the British offices and operations.

British Rail Engineering: Mr Norman J. Hunter has been appointed manager of public affairs.

Findhorn Finances: Mr Paul Savage, company secretary, has been appointed to the board.

Legal & General: Mr Ron Peet, chief executive, will retire in June 1984. He will become a non-executive director. Mr I. R. Martin, assistant pensions manager, is to be controller (managed funds); Mr M. Fortham, assistant pensions contracts manager, is to be superintendent (managed funds); Mr J. A. Furlong, training adviser (personnel) and Mr J. J. Martin, are to be superintendents (managed funds); Mr G. F. Peplow is to be superintendent (general insurance); Mr M. J. Essex, personnel manager, is to be personnel administration service manager; Mr B. V. Hart, administration manager, is to be pensions manager; Mr C. D. Pullan, assistant actuary, is to be controller (life planning); and Mr B. H. Wright is to be customer communications officer.

BEY International Services: Mr David Layton has been appointed to the main board.

Geovia Tin Mines: Mr C. F. T. Maxon has been appointed a director.

For a time of recession, the gas business in Britain continues to generate cash for both the Government and the State-owned British Gas corporation at a furious rate.

Yesterday's annual results from the corporation show that it has now pipped British Telecom for the dubious accolade of being the largest single profitmaker in the public sector.

With current cost profits more than doubled at £653m (equivalent to £1,034m on the old historic cost basis), British Gas made more money last year than all but three or four of the leading companies in the private sector. Its profits were greater than those of ICI, Beecham and Marks & Spencer combined.

Despite funding an £800m capital investment programme entirely out of its own resources, the corporation still had £223m of cash to spare at the end of the year. And this was after paying the Government £196m in tax and another £470m in the form of the gas levy, that clever wheeze invented three years ago by Tory politicians to cream off some of the profits the corporation is making on its long-standing cheap supplies of gas from the southern North Sea.

But this apparently mutually satisfactory state of affairs has done little to close the political and operational gulf between the politicians and the gas men, who continue to regard the Government's policy towards their industry as little short of crazy.

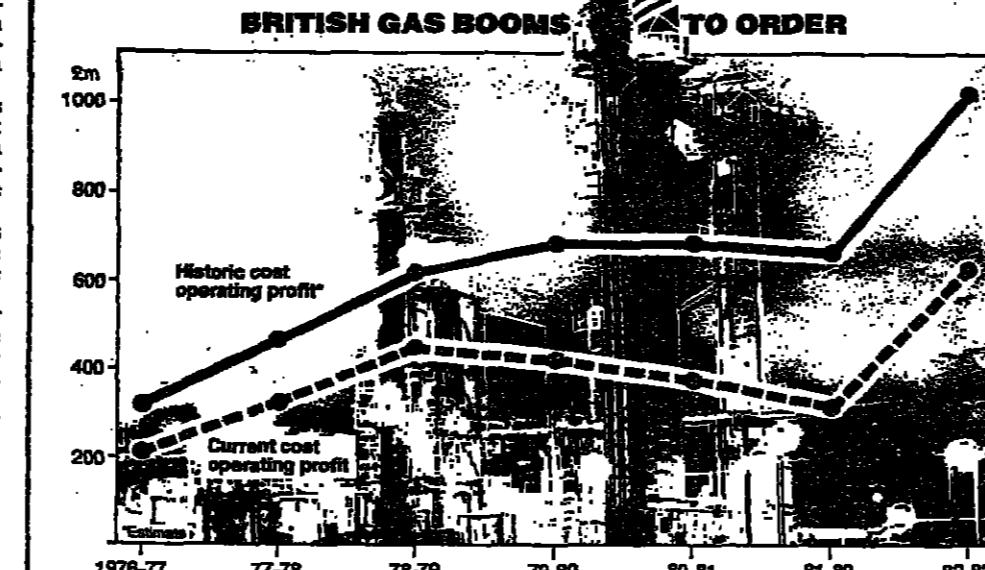


Walker: cordial relations

It is not secret that Sir Denis Rooke, the corporation's chairman, enjoys more cordial relations with Mr Peter Walker, the new Secretary of State for Energy, than he did with Mr Nigel Lawson, his more doctrinaire predecessor at the Department of Energy.

The arrival of a sympathetic sponsoring minister has, however, been more than offset by the translation of Mr Lawson's important centre of power at the Treasury, where the key

Corporation's profits are more than those of ICI, Beecham and M & S combined



Gas men again tell Whitehall to keep its hands off

decisions about nationalized industries will continue to be taken.

The changeover has done only a little to ease the fears of Sir Denis and his colleagues that more unpalatable medicine may shortly be prescribed for their industry.

Over the past three years, the corporation has opposed the Government's efforts to intervene in a business that (the gasmen say) it knows little about. For as long as was practicable, it has fought against the Government's orders to dispose of its valuable onshore and North Sea oil assets.

Referring to the need for modest, but steady, long-term increases in the price of gas, he said: "We should like this to be a gradual process rather than a succession of freezes and sudden jumps dictated by factors other than the needs of our customers and the business".

This, in nationalized industry speak, is straight code for "hands off", or (if you prefer) "no electricity please".

What the Government does next remains to be seen. Having theoretically broken British Gas' monopoly over gas supply with last year's Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act, it is once again said to be studying plans to hive off British Gas' 900 high street showrooms to the private sector

At the same time, Sir Denis has campaigned against the gas levy on the grounds that it is the wrong way of raising money from the gas industry, especially when it simply recoups some of the extra income that the Government-ordained price rises had taken from domestic consumers in the first place.

Yesterday, Sir Denis returned to his theme that the politicians should leave his industry to get on with running what it regards as an already well-run operation without interference.

Referring to the need for

a move that holds little in the way of financial or political gain.

The manifesto at the last election spoke of extending the privatization of the gas and electricity industries, but concrete proposals have yet to surface. Hardliners in the Government such as Mr Lawson are doubtless still determined to make further inroads into British Gas' monopoly position, and generate further improvements in costs and efficiency.

British Gas' attitude to privatization has always been that - if it is to take place at all - it should take the form of privatizing the corporation as a whole, rather than selling off its profitably arms one at a time.

Despite pressure for such a move from a number of influential Tory backbenchers, there is no evidence that this route is practical, at least for the moment.

As with British Telecom, it would require the setting up of a regulatory authority, preparations for which would probably take several years.

The American experience of a regulated private sector gas industry - where the price and

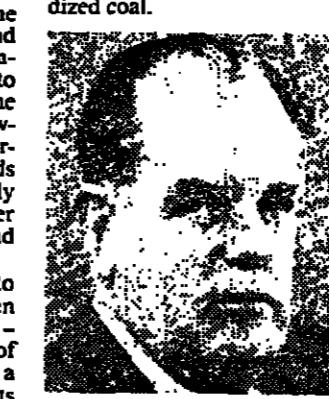
safety regulations have distorted market forces far more drastically and logically than the British monopoly could ever do - is not one to inspire confidence.

What is not in doubt is that British Gas has reached a plateau in its relentless rise to prominence as a generator of cash. Partly as a result of the disposal of the oil assets (which will cost British Gas £300m of cash flow over the next three years), its profitability is likely to decline in the next two years. After that it will start to rise again, but relatively slowly.

With the decline of the original North Sea gas fields in the next 10 years, the corporation faces a significant increase in the cost of its gas supplies, whether they come from Norway of from new fields in the North Sea. Mr Chris Brierley, managing director for economic planning, expects the average price of the corporation's raw materials to double in real terms from its present level of 11.6p a therm over the next 10 years.

On the demand side, the corporation is still expecting sales to rise from 16.8 billion therms to 19 billion therms by 1987/8. Half of this increase is expected to come from domestic consumers, particularly in central heating. It still sees no sign of revival in industrial demand, traditionally a reliable barometer of economic activity.

Despite its 50 per cent price advantage over oil, the gas corporation has recently lost a few customers to heavily subsidized coal.



Rooke: steady increases

The corporation's workforce has been reduced from its peak of 106,000 two years ago to 101,200, and this rundown is expected to continue throughout the 1980s. This indicator of improved efficiency should at least go down well with the nationalized industry's critics as a whole, rather than selling off its profitably arms one at a time.

Despite pressure for such a move from a number of influential Tory backbenchers, there is no evidence that this route is practical, at least for the moment.

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The American experience of a regulated private sector gas industry - where the price and

Industrial notebook

Sharper image for machine tools

A magazine survey this week appears to give the lie to that Jeremiads who declare that British manufacturing industry has gone into irreversible decline largely for lack of capital investment.

The fifth survey of machine tools and production equipment from *Metalworking Production* magazine may not be a document that normally sets the country agog with expectation. But therein is evidence that a lot of the nation's factories have been rapidly and comprehensively re-equipped in recent years.

Gone are the days, it seems, when the predominant picture of industry was that of a small band of highly ingenious workers keeping machines turning by using bits of string and pliers.

Machines less than five years old now account for 26 per cent of the total inventory compared with 18 per cent in 1976. Machine-buying during the 1970s now means that 39 per cent of the entire population of just under one million machines is under 10 years old.

When it comes to metal-forming machines - those that bend, press, shear and draw - almost half of those in the United Kingdom are under five years old compared with 41 per cent in Japan and under 29 per cent in the US.

Again, on an international scale, Britain's industrial productivity should be close to the competition judging by the rush to install high technology production equipment. Of the total machine tool population, 3.32 per cent are now numerically controlled (NC) machines, which beats West Germany's 2.2 per cent, America's 1.94 per cent, France's 1.86 per cent and even Japan's 2.84 per cent.

Significantly, the greatest growth in the use of NC machines has been in companies employing fewer than 50 workers. There has also been an admirable swing away from buying directly imported machines; the ratio on 59 per cent British origin and 41 per cent foreign has tipped in favour of home producers in the last five years despite the big sales pitches of the importers.

Despite every indication to the contrary, says the magazine, the 3,000 respondents to the survey have strong plans for investment over the next five or six years. They expect

to install 52,000 NC machines out of total expected purchases of 201,000.

Mr Ted Holland, the magazine's editor, adds: "The message that jumps out of the survey is that Britain now has the technology: our potential is immense. If our production managers have promoted and pursued their plans so effectively over the last five years, the reward must be encouragement to put all this advanced equipment to its best use."

"Determination to grow is the order for today. And that must include Government, public utilities, major manufacturers, and every metalworking shop down to the smallest subcontractor".

Before there is too much emphasis, however, there are other figures in the survey which show that there is still much catching-up to be done. A third of Britain's machines are at least 20 years old, and while we may have more than 3,400 automatic assembly machines in operation this compares badly with the 23,839 in Japan.

Clearly, the Government and the financial sector could do far more to help manufacturing use its new high-tech hardware to the greatest effect. Sadly, neither has in recent years felt able to take big risks, preferring to blame poor demand and idle workers for industry's plight.

The British machine tool industry is now a shadow of its post-war self, but the remnants could still survive and prosper, and be able to combat the imports.

Edward Townsend
The Fifth Survey of Machine Tools and Production Equipment in Britain, Metalworking Production, Morgan-Grampian, 30 Calderwood Street, London SE18 6QH £52.

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MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Boost to US sales hope gives Boots a tonic

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, July 18. Dealings end, July 29. Contango Day, Aug 1. Settlement Day, Aug 8.

American investors reckon they have a bargain when they sell one. Yesterday they were buying shares in Boots, the high street chemist, as the shares soared 21p to a new high of 332p on word that the group's application to market Ibuprofen over the counter in the US had been brought forward.

Ibuprofen is the active ingredient in Boots' anti-rheumatic drug Brufen, which has been available on prescription in this country for years. But under the trade name Advil, Boots hopes to market the drug over the counter in the massive US market and has already lined up a licensing deal with American Home, the giant US drug distributor.

A spokesman for Boots yesterday told *The Times* that the application to market Ibuprofen in America would be heard before an open committee meeting of the Federal Drug Administration on August 18, after which recommendations would be made. But he warned that the final go-ahead for the drug could be as far as two years off.

Analysts in the City reckon the deal could lead to a further surge in profits for the group which last year rose from £112m to £125m. It could certainly force brokers to upgrade their earlier estimates.

Meanwhile, Glaxo was enjoying a new wave of support rising 30p to 87p. A report in the *Wall Street Journal* estimates Zantac has secured 7 per cent of new prescriptions in the anti-arthritis market in the first week alone.

The rest of the equity market was in a more confident mood after the overnight performance on Wall Street. Investors appeared to have shrugged off fears of an imminent rise in interest rates after the latest disappointing money supply figures over the weekend.

Sentiment was also helped by the better-than-expected trade figures showing a surplus instead of the feared deficit. As a result the FT Index ended at its high for the day 8.0 up at 708.9.

Among blue chips, BOC Group stood out with a rise of 16p to 238p helped by US buying of the shares. According to several London brokers the shares are being recommended to their clients by Merrill Lynch, the influential American broker.

Rises were also seen in Allied-Lyons 3p to 225p, Hawker Siddeley 2p to 30p, Lucas Industries 3p to 145p, Marks & Spencer 2p to 197p, P & O deferred 3p to 195p and Plessey 7p to 667p.

Shares of ICI were also a good market 6p higher at 530p ahead of second quarter figures later tomorrow. The market is

looking for pretax profits of £260m for the first half with the second quarter chipping in with around £130m.

Gilts spent a better day scoring gains of nearly £1 at the longer end of the market reflecting approval for the Government's fund raising proposals announced earlier this week. On the foreign exchange the pound rose 0.2 cents to \$1.5250.

BP rallied 4p to 394p after further reflection of the Government's proposals to reduce its stake in the group and raise about £500m in the process. Brokers estimate the Government will reduce its stake from the present level of 39 per cent to around 32 per cent; the third sell off of shares in the company in recent years.

The hot weather has been good news for Whitbread the head before an open committee meeting of the Federal Drug Administration on August 18, after which recommendations would be made. But he warned that the final go-ahead for the drug could be as far as two years off.

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Your own office as Senior Secretary to a large, well-established company. Good shorthand typing and general office skills are required.

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A very good first or second job opportunity exists in a small and friendly agency. The right person will be a teetotaler, have a cheerful personality and be willing to help out where and when necessary. Fast accurate typing is essential and shorthand would be useful. An excellent telephone manner is important. Charlotte Smith on 734 8931 during office hours.

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You'll be entirely involved in above and below the line advertising operations - so previous ad. agency exp. desirable. Lively, 20+ PA with shorthand to join 2 for MDs. Press liaison etc. Contact Gail Buckley immediately on 628 0574.

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Expanding company in Covent Garden requires Secretary 21+ with good typing/sht. Some PR experience preferred, job needs someone with initiative, enthusiasm, common sense and willingness to become involved in all areas of hectic, friendly company. Salary £6,500 np.

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Unflappable, versatile Secretary for MD of small, but busy PR Company. Varied work, lots of involvement. Applications with CV to: Carole Stewart Bryant and Bryant Ltd, 35, Dover St, London W1X 3RA.

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CSA Publicity
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WC2E 8PA

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An Assistant is required for the Sales & Engineering Section. The work involves the administration of the BSC department including the preparation of monthly reports. The work provides an opportunity to gain experience of the engineering industry, its operations and to work on one's own. One to one supervision will be given. Good communication with University Committees. Applicants should have a good general education and a knowledge of science or engineering subjects is not necessary. Some typing and shorthand are essential. General office experience is desirable.

Salary in the range £6,297 - £7,545. Contracted hours 37.5 hours and annual leave 25 days.

Further details and application form from The Personnel Officer, University of London, 26 Gordon House, Gordon Street, London WC1E 7AD, or telephone 6356 8000 ext 2047 or 2048. Closing Date 12 August 1983.

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With 6th required by Mayfair Estate Agents aged 20-25. Salary c £7,500. Interesting and varied work.

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SECRETARY/PA £11,00. Leading co. require Sec/PA to assist Director. Suitable for someone with 5 years previous experience at director level. Good knowledge of the law and some secretarial skills. Ring 01-744 5011. Contested (Gros Ag).

A PRIVATE HOSPITAL GROUP require a Receptionist with experience, accurate data typed with word processing experience or word processor. Salary £5,000. Telephone 486 7133. DSC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE required in shorthand Secretary of large insurance brokers. £7,500 + free weekly car. 24 hours. 40 hours. Tel 01-7001 (West End). Secretaries Plus, 2nd Floor, 100 Newgate Street, London EC1V 7EP.

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We have vacancies for two Secretaries, each working for two account executives in the financial/public affairs area.

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If you would like to work in a stimulating and informal environment, write with CV to Tessie Dorsey, Daniel J Edelman Ltd, Stanhope House, Stanhope Place, London, W2 2HH. Tel 732 3444.

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Young advertising agency require top class PA to run office. Good secretarial skills essential plus ability to work under pressure and own initiative. Plenty of admin work, media buying and press relations. Good telephone manner, client liaison. Age 21+. Salary £5,000 + bonus.

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Required in the Examination Department of the Royal College of St. Martin's, 27 St Martin's, Regent's Park, London NW1. Good typing ability required, ability to work under pressure. Administration of part 1 membership examination & some committee work involved. Good working environment, free lunches & 4 weeks annual holiday, starting salary according to age & experience within range £5,267 to £6,159 subject to review 1st January.

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20, Canning Place, London, W8 5AD

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Who is able to type is needed by Architects with studios near the Barbican.

Please write with information to: Frederick Gibberd & Partners, 82-84 St John St, London EC1M 4BP.

The Manager, Words End Studio 351 4303.

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Enthusiastic Audio Secretary/Assistant for small, busy residential department at our Mayfair office.

Applicants must have initiative, an outgoing personality, fast accurate typing and a good telephone manner.

Salary c £6,000 pa

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If you are 18-30 years old, possess 2-4 A levels and 50/60 wpm typing and are seeking a worthwhile job then please contact Wendy Robinson at The Fund Development Office. Telephone 01-629 5611 or 01-732 4472 (box) by 5pm on Friday, August 5th.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

Cosfax All News headlines, weather, traffic and sports details. Also available to viewers with television sets that do not have the teletext facility.

Breakfast Time with Nick Ross and Selina Scott. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; traffic fit between 6.45 and 7.15; tonight's television preview between 7.15 and 7.30; review of the morning papers at 7.32 and 7.45; agony aumt between 8.30 and 8.45; agony aumt between 8.45 and 9.00; and food and cookery hints between 8.45 and 9.00.

Blue Peter Goes Silver. Highlights from the 1968 expedition by Land Rover to Morocco, celebrating the programme's Silver Anniversary. 8.25 **Jackanory**. Rosalind Ayres reads part of *Goodnight Stories* and *Secret Garden*. 8.40 **The Amazing Adventures of Morph** (n) 9.45 **Why Don't You?** Ideas for young people at a loose end (n) 10.10 **Closedown**

News After Noon with Michael Cole and Noreen Bray. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles. 1.20 **Regional news** (London and SE only); **Financial report** followed by news headlines with subtitles) 1.30 **King Rolls** (r) 1.35 **Eric & Ebrac** with Brian Cant (r)

Brett Maverick In The Lazy Ace. Sharing James Garner as the charming card sharp, in town for one last game before he retires. (r) 3.20 **Interval**. 3.25 **A Year in the Life of The River Keeper**. Londoner Bernard Aldrich escaped from the metropolis to become the river keeper on Lord Mountbatten's Estate (r). 4.18 **Regional news** (not London). 3.15 **Play School**. Shown earlier on BBC 4.45 **Cartoon**: *Boss Cat in The Unscratches* (r) 5.05 **John Craven's Newsround**. 5.10 **The Children of Destiny**. Magnus Magnusson describes the childhood of Mary Queen of Scots (r)

4.00 **News with Moya Stuart** 6.00 **South East at Six**

5.00 **Nationwide** presented by Richard Kershaw and Hugh Scully

7.00 **Paddles Up**. Heat three in the canoeing competition and seven of the best women paddlers race against the clock. The two fastest join the four men in next week's final.

15 **The Day of the Dolphin** (1975) starring George C Scott as a marine biologist who is teaching dolphins to communicate with humans. Outside forces learn of his experiment and the learned scientist himself mixed up in international intrigue. Directed by Mike Nichols.

10 **News with Michael Buerk**. 15 **Come Dancing**. Peter Marshall is at the Great Room, Grosvenor House, London, for the first of the competition between North West and Home Counties South, the hosts.

10 **Play: Being Normal**, by Brian Paden. The story of how a child's abnormality affected her parent's marriage. Starring Anna Carteret and David Suchet (see Choice).

33 **News headlines**.

36 **A View of the Pier**. Gavyn Henderson on a nostalgic trip around Britain's coast to see the reminders of Victorian holidays. With Harry Strutt's Hot Rhythm Orchestra.

65 **Weather**.

SEQUENCES: Radio 1: 1055kHz/265m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: JHK 1500m VHF 92.55; BBC 1 1522kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/260m; VHF 94.9; Radio 5: 654kHz/463m.

TV-am

8.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; traffic fit between 6.45 and 7.15; tonight's television preview between the morning papers at 7.32 and 7.45; agony aumt between 8.30 and 8.45; agony aumt between 8.45 and 9.00; and food and cookery hints between 8.45 and 9.00.

ITV/LONDON

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12.00 **Button Moon Rocket** adventures with puppets (r) 12.10 **Rainbow** (r) 12.30 **The Electric Theatre Show** John Doran talks to *EastEnders*, one of the country's leading casting directors.

1.00 **News 1.20** **Thames news** 1.30 **Emmerdale Farm**. The strains of parenthood are becoming apparent to Matt and Dolly Skinner (r) 2.00 **A Plat**. Gill Novell is at the **Thatched Music Festival** to hear the English Sinfonia playing *Beethoven's Third* **Orchestral Suite**. The conductor is Stuart Bedford.

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4.00 **Red, Jane and Freddie** (r) 4.15 **Carbon** featuring Victor and Marie 4.20 **Emu's World**. Another adventure for Rod Hull and his unpredictable pet (r) 4.45 **What's Happening**. The second quarter final in the topical quiz *The contestants*. *Red, Jane and Freddie* and *DownTown Radio* 5.15 **Different Strokes**. American comedy series about a millionaire and his adopted children.

5.45 **News 6.00** **Thames News**. Help! Julie Walters with news of opportunities for unemployed people.

6.35 **Crossroads** Kath Brownlow has a tricky situation to handle.

7.00 **Where There's Life** ... Dr Rob Buckman joins a group of cancer sufferers as they go to Mexico in search of a cure.

7.30 **Coronation Street**. What does the future hold for Bell Lynch and her fancy man, Des Foster?

8.00 **Starburst**. Variety show with topping of the bill, French singer Sacha Distel. Among others on the programme are Lorraine Chase, *The Nolans* and *Mike Reid*.

9.00 **Jemima Shore Investigates**: Death at La Carte. The investigative television reporter becomes involved in a mysterious disappearance of a romantic chef. Starring Patricia Hodge and Stratford Johns.

10.00 **News** followed by **Thames News**.

10.30 **Film: The Killing of Angel Street** (1981) starring Liz Alderman, John Harrapreys and Alexander Archipelago. The first in a season of films from Australia and New Zealand. Drama about high-fee fitters speculators and their efforts to intimidate the residents of a street they want to develop. Directed by Donald Crombie.

12.20 **Close with Barbara Leigh-Hunt**.

SEQUENCES: Radio 1: 1055kHz/265m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: JHK 1500m VHF 92.55; BBC 1 1522kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/260m; VHF 94.9; Radio 5: 654kHz/463m.

ENTERTAINMENTS

For credits and details of the latest issue, see *Entertainments* on page 61. Only the first 100 words of each entry can be included. Please send copy to *Entertainments*, Box 1000.

10 **WIMBLEDON FESTIVAL OPERA** The London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Choral Society. 7.30pm, Royal Albert Hall, London SW1. Tel: 01-580 4200. 11.30pm, *La Bohème* (1976) by Puccini. 7.30pm, *Gianni Schicchi* (1938) by Puccini. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *La Bohème* (1976) by Puccini. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

11 **AMBASSADORS THEATRE** 8.30pm, *Topol in Fiddler on the Roof*. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

12 **APOLLO VICTORIA**, New West End, SW1. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Topol in Fiddler on the Roof*. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

13 **ARTS THEATRE** 8.30pm, *Opera* (1982) by Puccini. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

14 **ASTORIA THEATRE** Covent Garden, WC2. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

15 **BALLET** 7.30pm, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

16 **CONCERTS** 7.30pm, *Wells Theatre*, ECT, 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

17 **THEATRES** 7.30pm, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (1984) by Richard Curtis. Tel: 01-580 4200. 12.30am, *Death in Venice* (1973) by Wagner. Tel: 01-580 4200.

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ITV/LONDON

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2.30 **A Country Practice**. Drama series about a medical practice in a remote Australian sheep town. 3.30 **Defintion** Cryptic crossword game for all the family. The celebrity guests are Hilary Pritchard and Leslie Thomas.

4.00 **Red, Jane and Freddie** (r) 4.15 **Carbon** featuring Victor and Marie 4.20 **Emu's World**. Another adventure for Rod Hull and his unpredictable pet (r) 4.45 **What's Happening**. The second quarter final in the topical quiz *The contestants*. *Red, Jane and Freddie* and *DownTown Radio* 5.15 **Different Strokes**. American comedy series about a millionaire and his adopted children.

5.45 **News 6.00** **Thames News**. Help! Julie Walters with news of opportunities for unemployed people.

6.35 **Crossroads** Kath Brownlow has a tricky situation to handle.

7.00 **Where There's Life** ... Dr Rob Buckman joins a group of cancer sufferers as they go to Mexico in search of a cure.

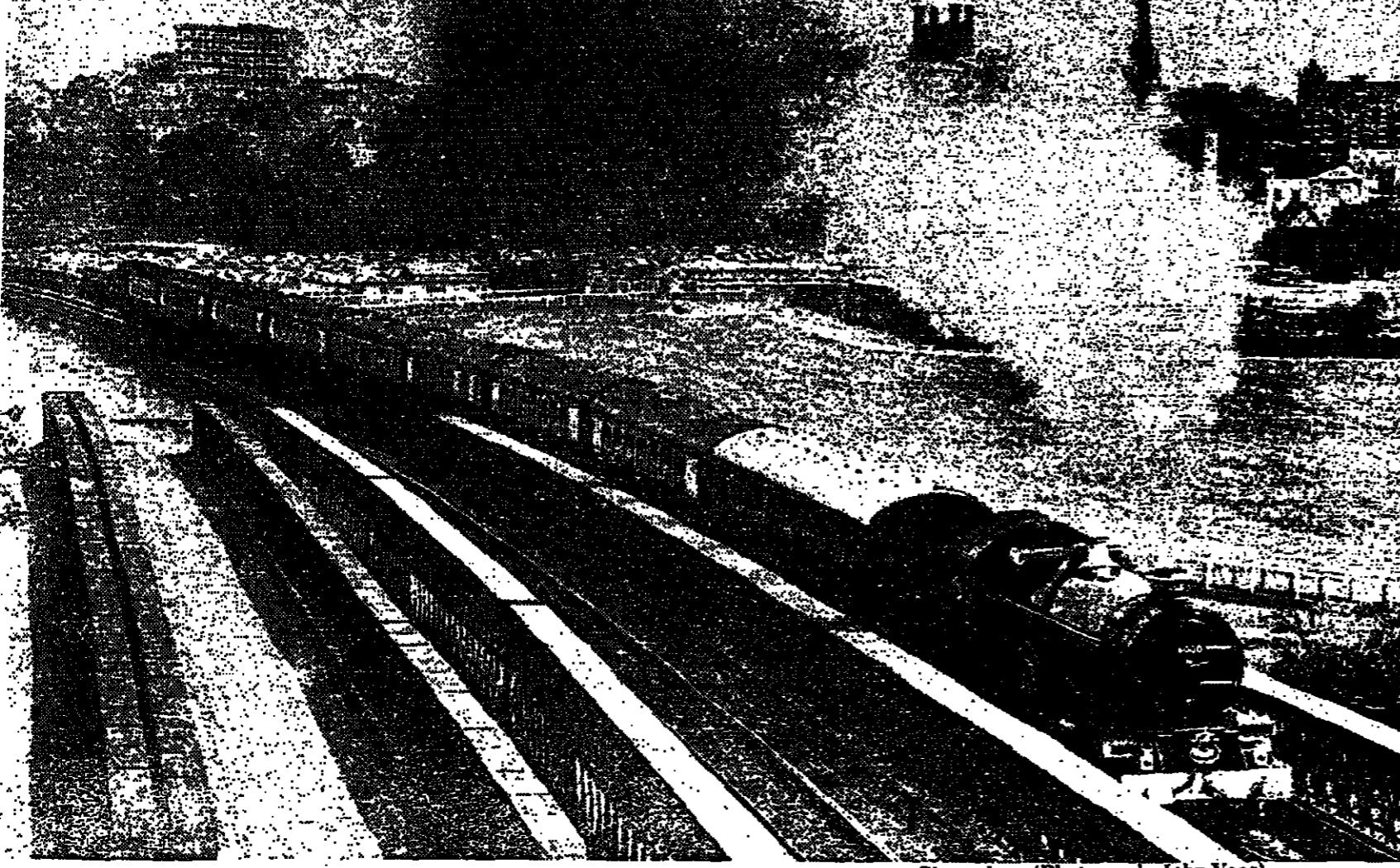
7.30 **Coronation Street**. What does the future hold for Bell Lynch and her fancy man, Des Foster?

8.00 **Starburst**. Variety show with topping of the bill, French singer Sacha Distel. Among others on the programme are Lorraine Chase, *The Nolans* and *Mike Reid*.

9.00 **Jemima Shore Investigates**: Death at La Carte. The investigative television reporter becomes involved in a mysterious disappearance of a romantic chef. Starring Patricia Hodge and Stratford Johns.

10.00 **News** followed by **Thames News**.

10.30 **Film: The Killing of Angel Street** (1981) starring Liz Alderman, John Harrapreys and Alexander Archipelago. The first in a season of films from Australia and New Zealand. Drama about high-fee fitters speculators and



Full steam ahead: The King George V passing Chester racecourse yesterday en route to Shrewsbury (Photograph: John Voss).

All aboard for one of the world's seven great railway journeys

One of the "great railway journeys of the world" is coming to Britain, and yesterday 77 VIPs were given a foretaste of it. The full round-Britain trip, taking 16 days and passing through some of the finest scenery in Scotland, starts next May. It will cost a mere £1,425.

It took shipping line, P&O to revive railway travel in the grand manner, and the preview trip from Euston to Chester and back boasted a line of shining Pullman coaches 30 years old, belonging to the Steam Locomotive Operators Association. For part of the journey, between Chester and Shrewsbury, they were pulled by the former Great Western Railway steam Locomotive, King George V.

The regular trips will be hauled by a rented British Rail diesel locomotive, though for one of the most dramatic scenic stretches, from Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh, the Pullmans will be headed by a steam locomotive on the old Dingwall and Skye Ferry Railway.

Yesterday Mr Michael Montague,



The itinerary is certainly untried: there are scheduled stays at York (overnight), Edinburgh (three nights), Skye (overnight), Glenelg (three nights), Windermere (two nights) and Chester (overnight).

The trip is one of seven in a "Great Journeys of the World" series planned by P&O. Others include

the chairman of the English Tourist Board, welcomed the innovation. "I am enthusiastic about these tours," he said. "They will revive the age of leisurely rail travel and show to advantage our cities and countryside. According to P&O the last round-Britain train was the Northern Belle which was cancelled on the outbreak of war in 1939".

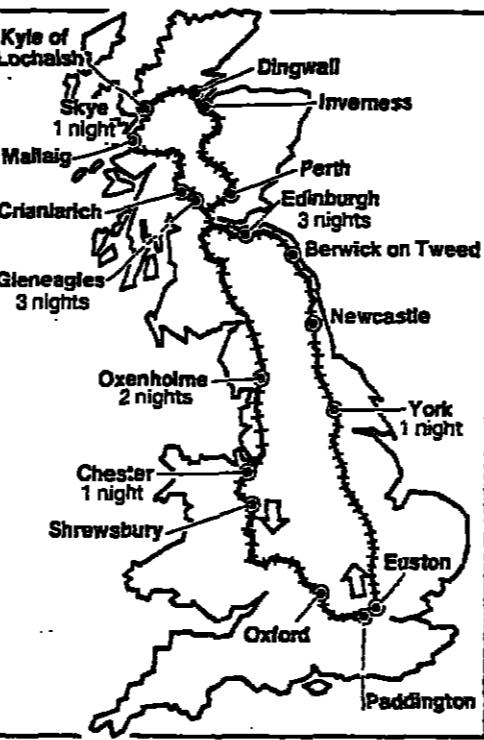
So far 2,000 places are scheduled, over the seven trips, and already 1,200 places have been sold. Mr Andrew Cochrane, the chief executive of P&O Holidays, predicted that most of the train's clients would be from abroad.

Hard-up rail enthusiasts might care to note that the £1,425 round-Britain journey can actually be achieved for £100, travel only, via a second class Rail Rover ticket permitting unlimited travel through Britain for one week. A first class ticket costs £50 more.

A similar ticket for two weeks costs £160 for second class and £230 for first class. Children aged five to 16 travel half price.

The rover tickets cover basic travel between all BR stations, Sealink services to and from the Isle

of Wight, Lake Windermere, and Tilbury to Gravesend, and sailings on the Firth of Clyde



of Wight, Lake Windermere, and Tilbury to Gravesend, and sailings on the Firth of Clyde

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh give a garden party at Buckingham Palace; the Prince and Princess of Wales are also present, 4 to 6.

The Duke of Gloucester presents awards to Australian Science Scholars, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, 6.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron of the National Association of Gifted Children, attends a

residential course at Packwood Haugh School, Shrewsbury, 10.

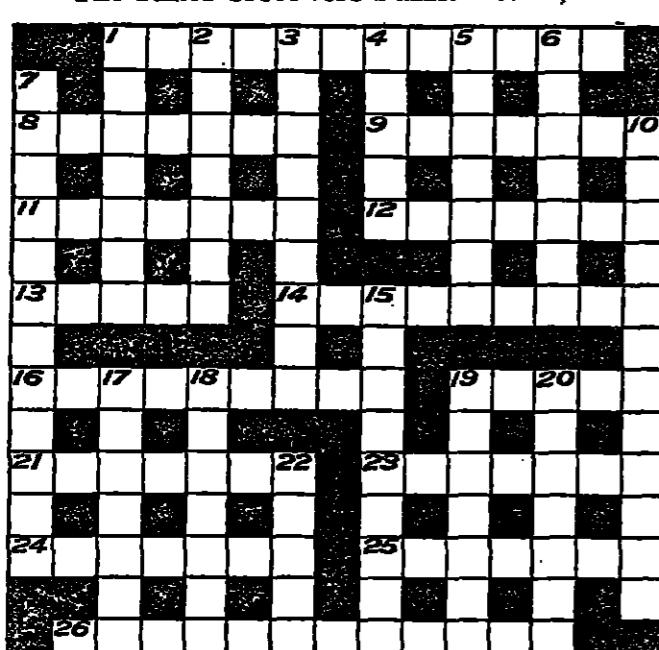
The Duke of Kent, President of The Scout Association, visits the Norfolk International Jamboree Camp, Royal Norfolk Showground, Norwich, 2.30.

New exhibitions

Private Views: self-portraits and portraits selected by Anthony Rae, Ransome Library Gallery, Guildford Lanes, Ransome, Mon to Wed 9.30 to 6, Tues and Sat 9.30 to 5, Fri 9.30 to 8, closed Sun (until Aug 20).

Tomorrow's Technology Today, Design Centre, Vincent Street, 20.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,192



ACROSS

- With dedication are old haunts being changed? (5,3,4).
- Feeling of doubt may tip scales (7).
- Simply excellent form I see as reported for this race? (7).
- Round up in turn some time before Easter - that's rich? (7).
- A little fruit in the seraglio? (7).
- Spoke at length on many a type of shoe-leather? (5).
- Various women tend to make such provision? (9).
- One who finds out heat burns (9).
- Issue a right kind of sound system? (5).
- Choose to sort mail - that's best? (7).
- Backing on ref tipping in to contain pandemic? (7).
- What we must do about bookheading that is creating misgiving? (7).
- Runners in 20 races? (3-4).
- In critical manner producing noisy closure? (12).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,191

BITCHANDTOSS
AMAZONIAN RAIN
TIBERMORY BATH
ENI MINKS SOONER
LOTION PASTORAL
LAWN IN LIMELI
ALBETIOLYMPIAN
ABC MYSMAKIN
HOCKATOO STRAGIC
URCHIN CHAUSSE
BEAMENDS GOREON
INREL KREMPART
SLANG TANAMCRATIA
TETRAHEDRON ENDU
ESTREINCHMORIJA

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Motions on social security benefits and pensioners' lump sum payments. Lords (2.30): Tributes to Sir Peter Henderson, Clerk of the Parliaments and declaration of Mr John Smyth as Clerk of the Parliaments. Motions on social security benefits.

DOWN

- Shaggy description of female attire say? (7).
- Broad Street looks most lavish (7).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

New books - hardbacks

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

A Colder Eye, the modern Irish writers, by Hugh Kenner (Allen Lane, £14.95). *At the Queen's Table*, Food and Politics in Mary Stewart's Scotland, by Gordon Donaldson (Gollancz, £4.95).

Catch a Fire, the Life of Bob Marley, by Timothy White (Elm Tree, £9.95).

French and Germanic Germans and French, by Richard Cobb (University of New England, £10.95).

Monetary Policy since 1971, conduct and performance, by Maximilian Hall (Macmillan, £6.95).

Pleasures and Terrors, Aaron Stakind, by Carl Chirnerza (Hutchinson, £30).

Scotland, a new study, by Christopher M. Allerton (David & Charles, £15).

The Jazz Tradition, by Alan Williams (Oxford, £14.50).

Victorian and Edwardian Cotswolds from old photographs, by David Viner (Batsford, £7.95).

Wales in Verse, edited and with an introduction by Dannie Abse (Secker & Warburg, £6.95).

The papers

Commenting on US policy in central America, the *Daily Mirror* says: "It used to be called gunboat diplomacy, with President Reagan it is more like cowboy diplomacy - like the plot of a poor 'B' movie".

The Daily Star blames Government economic policies for rises in gas prices at a time when British Gas is making huge profits and almost a million people are having difficulty paying their bills. If gas is profitable, let the customers benefit, the paper says.

Wales and West A483: Roadworks and temporary lights at Ammanford, Dyfed; long delays; MS: Lane closures between junctions 2 (M69) and Coventry East; A45: Lane closures on Orwell Bridge, Ipswich bypass, Suffolk. A46: Roadworks on Nene Valley Way at junction of Bedford Road roundabout, Northampton.

North East A46: Roadworks and temporary lights at Bowes, Co Durham. MS: Lane closures between junctions 25 (A49 Wigton) and 27 (A3209 Wigton/Staindrop), Greater Manchester.

Scotsman A725: Lane closures at Bogbrae, Strathclyde, A9: Single lane traffic with temporary lights S of Auchterarder, Tayside.

Alfresco drinking

The following is a selection of recommended London pubs with gardens, patios and terraces.

Canbury Tavern, 21 Canbury Place, N1; *Cross Keys*, Lawrence Street, SW3; *Founders Arms*, Bayswater, SE1; *Fremasons Arms*, Downing Hill, NW3; *Green Man*, Green Man, Wildcroft Road, SW15; Old Star, Hammersmith, Upper Mall, W6; Old Windmill, Chiswick Common, South Side, SW4; *Princes Arms*, Prince's Road, NW1; *Prospect of Whitby*, Wapping Wall, E1; *Roe and Crown*, Wimbledon, 55 High Street, SW19; *Scarsdale Arms*, Edwardes Square, W8; *Six Bells*, 197 Kings Road, NW3; *Spaniards*, Swan, cosmo Passage, Southampton Row, WC1; *White Swan*, riverside, Twickenham, Middlesex. PHS

Organ recital by Alberni String Quartet, Jesus College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.

Organ recital by James O'Donnell, Robinson College Chapel, Cambridge, 1.30.

Talks, lectures

Margaret Drabble: *Landscape and Literature*, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield, 7.15.

Recital by Henry Herford (baritone), and Robin Bowman (piano), St Mary's Centre, Chester, 1.10.

Organ recital by Mark Burgess, Ryde Parish Church, Isle of Wight.

Piano recital by Philip Mead, St Edmund's, Bredbury, 1.10.

The classical music and dance performance by group from Shinshu-hinriku University, Bangkok, St Nicholas' Chapel, King's Lynn, 8.

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